Diet-associated dilated cardiomyopathy (DCM) updates

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- Diet-associated DCM can affect many different breeds
- Unlike genetic DCM, diet-associated DCM can improve if diet is changed
- DCM in Irish Wolfhounds can be genetic, diet-associated, or a combination of both
- Irish Wolfhounds eating high-pulse diets had more ventricular premature complexes (VPCs) than IWs eating low-pulse diets
- Associated with diets high in pulses (peas, lentils, chickpeas, beans)
- Not just grain-free diets (both grain-free and grain-inclusive diets can be high in pulses)
- Not associated with a lack of grains or a deficiency of taurine or other nutrients
- May be associated with abnormal heart metabolism of a special type of fat (phospholipids)
- A different form of DCM can be caused by nutritional deficiencies when dogs eat nutritionally unbalanced home-prepared or commercial diets
- Obesity is becoming common in dogs: Keep hounds trim throughout life to optimize health and lifespan!

Phospholipid article

Petfoodology

IW VPC article

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