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From: lissa.scott [lissa.scott@verizon.net]
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To: 'MAGDRL Extended List'
Subject: DOE Topic #35: Low-Quality Dog Foods

Hi All,

The caution about using **Phenobarbital** for canine epilepsy in the earlier DOE topic still applies. (See here: <http://www.vet.upenn.edu/schoolresources/communications/publications/bellwether/55/msg-phenobarbital.html> "**Phenobarbital** is a known carcinogen.....") But in continuing this research, besides finding **pentobarbital** in low quality dog foods, some of the other ingredients are far worse. Sharing this information as **Dog Owner Education topic #35: Low-Quality Dog Foods**

When we adopted Kuna at age 6 YO, her original owners had fed her Ol' Roy (WalMart.) Of course we've all heard that Ol' Roy contains byproducts of rendered animals, but in searching the web I found even more distressing information about the ingredients in low quality dog food here: <http://www.nexusmagazine.com/articles/petfood1.html>

"When you read pet food labels, and it says "meat and bone meal", that's what it is: cooked and converted animals, including some dogs and cats."

"Some of these dead pets - those euthanised by veterinarians - already contain **pentobarbital** before treatment with the denaturing process. According to University of Minnesota researchers, the sodium **pentobarbital** used to euthanise pets "survives rendering without undergoing degradation". Fat stabilisers are introduced into the finished rendered product to prevent rancidity. Common chemical stabilisers include BHA (butylated hydroxyanisole) and BHT (butylated hydroxytoluene) - both known to cause liver and kidney dysfunction - and ethoxyquin, a suspected carcinogen. Many semi-moist dog foods contain propylene glycol - first cousin to the anti-freeze agent, ethylene glycol, that destroys red blood-cells. Lead frequently shows up in pet foods, even those made from livestock meat and bone meal. A Massachusetts Institute of Technology study, titled "Lead in Animal Foods", found that a nine-pound cat fed on commercial pet food ingests more lead than the amount considered potentially toxic for children."

We may never know whether these ingredients caused Kuna's cancer, but they are unquestionably unhealthy for pets. Please share this information with anyone you know who is feeding low-quality dog foods (some brands are listed here http://www.petcaretips.net/euthanized_pets.html)

And as always, thanks for educating yourself to benefit dogs and their owners!

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MAGDRL web: <http://www.magdrl.org>
MAGDRL events: <http://www.lissa.net/Joya/MAGDRL.htm>
Bloat info: http://www.lissa.net/Joya/Merlot_bloat.htm
Gastropexy info: <http://www.lissa.net/Joya/Lapro-Pexy.htm>
Colon Torsion info: http://www.lissa.net/Joya/jupiter_torsion.htm

"A dog is the only thing on earth that loves you more than he loves himself." - Josh Billings

