# Advancing Science for Pet Health

## CHOOSING QUALITY: FEEDING YOUR PET A SUPPLEMENT



Healthy pets eating a complete and balanced commercial pet food, appropriate for their life stage, do not need a supplement to meet their nutritional requirements. If your pet eats a home-cooked diet, a veterinary nutritionist can recommend supplements to ensure your pet's nutritional needs are met.

However, there may be other reasons to give a supplement. A supplement may help:

- Provide pets with personalized nutrition by targeting a specific body system, such as joint health.
- Provide nutrients that a picky eater may not be getting from their preferred diet.

We may recommend specific supplements in defined amounts and frequencies from specific manufacturers:

- Quality, ingredient purity, and effects of supplements vary among manufacturers. It is important to use supplements from trusted companies experienced in pet nutrition and dedicated to quality and safety. The supplements that we recommend are ones that we have researched, and that we trust.
- Whenever possible we recommend supplements with scientific support, for their intended purpose, when fed to dogs and/or cats.
- Toxicity or side effects are possible with excessive levels of some nutrients/ingredients. Always feed supplements according to label directions or as we have recommended.
- Supplements marketed for humans may contain artificial sweeteners or other ingredients that may be toxic or are otherwise not suitable for pets. Do not feed human supplements to pets unless we have recommended that exact supplement.
- Supplements designed for pets are at a concentration appropriate for pets and are in forms and flavors favored by them and so are easiest to feed.

#### Please contact us if:

- You have trouble giving the supplement(s) to your pet.
- Your pet has any vomiting or diarrhea or if you have other concerns after starting the supplement(s).

| Clinic name: |  |  |  |
|--------------|--|--|--|
|              |  |  |  |

Contact information:

### RIVER Institute

Advancing Science for Pet Health

#### **Recommendations for:**

| Recommendation           | ns for:                  |                 |                 |        | (Pet's name) |  |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------|--------------|--|
| The following supplement | nt(s) may help           | support your pe | :t's            |        |              |  |
| Supplement 1 name: _     |                          |                 |                 |        |              |  |
| Recommended form:        | Liquid                   | Powder          | Chewable tablet | Tablet | Capsule      |  |
| How much:                | How often per day:       |                 |                 |        |              |  |
| Supplement 2 (if applica | able) name:              |                 |                 |        |              |  |
| Recommended form:        | Liquid                   | Powder          | Chewable tablet | Tablet | Capsule      |  |
| How much:                | much: How often per day: |                 |                 |        |              |  |
| Supplement 3 (if applica | able) name:              |                 |                 |        |              |  |
| Recommended form:        | Liquid                   | Powder          | Chewable tablet | Tablet | Capsule      |  |
| How much:                |                          | How often pe    | er day:         |        |              |  |