

International Conference on

Complementary & Alternative Medicine

October 17-18, 2018 | Las Vegas, USA

Ketogenic diet as adjunctive therapy on the treatment of liver tumor

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Statement of the Problem: Antonia, a two-year-old non-breed female dog with tumor like swelling in the abdomen followed by pain and submandibular lymph nodes was submitted on a ketogenic diet. After seven months of therapy, image and laboratory exams follow up showed signals of healing. Pancreatic and hepatic enzymes that were high before the therapy, came up at normal levels. Ultrasonography didn't show nodules anymore. No more symptoms such as pain, diarrhea or vomiting.

Methodology & Theoretical Orientation: A ketogenic diet was adopted as an adjunct treatment in this case. It consists in the replacement of carbohydrates by healthy fats, which are converted to ketones, and in the intake of moderate amounts of high-quality protein to metabolize ketone bodies as an alternative fuel, when glucose availability is low.

Findings: The dog in this study showed significant improvement and came back to her normal life and activities right at the beginning of the therapy. Today, she has a healthy happy and very active life. Although the study was done in a dog, it is known that a ketogenic diet is also effective in preventing and reducing cancer risks in humans. The ketogenic diet can provide anti-angiogenic and pro-apoptotic mechanisms, suggesting that tumor cells have reduced the ability to metabolize these ketone bodies for energy. It can offer hope against cancer, both for prevention and treatment.

Conclusion: There are alternatives other than conventional medicine. Diet must be included on therapy plans either as an adjuvant or whenever possible as the main treatment. Nutrition plays an important role in the future of Medicine. Nontoxic metabolic therapy is effective and those interested in cancer prevention should know about this. Integrative Medicine conducted with criteria and responsibility leads to health and vitality for patients. Participants will know about this non-toxic alternative to help their patients and themselves.

Biography

Jacquelyne received her Bachelor of Science degree from UVV University of Vila Velha (Brazil) in 2009, and her Master of Veterinary Medicine degree from UNESP-São Paulo (Brazil) in 2012. After completion of her degree she was appointed as a Research Fellow in the Department of Nutrition at the UF College of Veterinary Medicine, Gainesville, Florida. She is an imaginative and dedicated research advocate and is among the country's foremost experts in the field of laboratory animal medicine. In the winter of 2016, she authored articles in research journals, was a member of a variety of professional and scientific organizations.

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