



Slimming solution

“Any pet, neutered or not, will gain weight if it’s overfed relative to its energy requirements”



PAGE 2

IN TIMES OF SORROW
CHRONIC GINGIVITIS &
STOMATITIS

QUOTABLE QUOTES
AHHH!

PAGE 3

NOTHING CUSHY ABOUT THIS
PROMO MADNESS

PAGE 4

EUKANUBA PUPPY AD

Tygerberg Animal Hospital Group:
Durbanville: 021 9763015;
Bellville: 021 9191191;
Goodwood: 021 5912571;
Kenridge: 021 9140886;
Parow: 021 9397102;
Sonstraal: 021 9751870;
After Hours Clinic: 021 9191191

www.tah.co.za.

Run by Sisters Norma Boshoff and Minyon Basson, the TAH Weight Clinic was established to help owners get their pets’ weight to a healthy level. Both cats and dogs may join the programme.



Excessive weight in an otherwise healthy pet is a direct result of consuming unnecessary amounts of food. Any pet, neutered or not, will gain weight if it’s over-fed relative to its energy requirements. And you have control over the amount your dog or cat eats.

At the programme start pets are weighed and put on a special weight loss diet. These diets contain the right levels and combinations of specific nutrients to modify the pet’s metabolism to a lean pattern. Dog owners are advised to increase the time spent walking their pet and to complement the walks with play time. Cat owners are asked to walk their cat on a harness, play with them or entice them to jump onto high shelves for food. Also, add interactive toys to its environment. Hydrotherapy at TAH’s heated

pool is recommended for dogs suffering from arthritis or joint problems.

Weight reduction needs to be done gradually - no crash diets. Once you’ve established a feeding plan that induces gradual weight loss over a few months, your pet will reach a point where weight maintenance occurs. You’d be surprised how much more active and alert your pet will be at an optimum weight. Also, your pet probably will live longer and have

a much better quality of life.

Progress is checked with fortnightly weighing sessions at the TAH Weight Management Clinic and pets also may be entered for the Hill’s Pet Slimmer of the Year competition.

Another excellent idea for owners of obese dogs is to book these guys in for regular swimming sessions in TAH’s heated hydrotherapy pool. It’s excellent exercise which doesn’t put strain on the joints and soon those kilos will start melting away – provided the dog is on a kilojoule-controlled diet!

The revamped TAH Kenridge



Service Excellence

Dr Ater Mc Donald of TAH Bellville is the winner of the Cape Town Regional Chambers of Commerce’s May Service Excellence award. This was for his “level of compassion not often seen these days”.

WHO’S WHERE **BELLEVILLE** Dr Ater McDonald Dr Colin Levitan Dr Ian Campbell Dr Frank Kettner Dr Nolan Moss Dr Sam Pillay Dr Michelle Adam Dr De Wet Barnard Dr Cicilia Muller Dr Kathryn Knipe **DURBANVILLE** Dr John Adam Dr Izak van der Vyver Dr Bradley Hodgson **GOODWOOD** Dr Paulina Crous **PAROW** Dr Pieter Human **SONSTRAAL** Dr Sophia Frick **KENRIDGE** Dr Stephen Smith Dr Liesl Shaw.
Although each branch handles all species, Kenridge is our exotics (reptiles, wild animals, etc) branch.



In times of Sorrow

For those who have lost a beloved pet, JM Addinall offers words of great comfort:

Do not stand at my grave and weep,
 I am not there, I do not sleep.
 I'll be in the thousand winds that blow
 over the mountains capped in snow.
 I'll be in the golden sunlight on
 ripening corn.
 I'll be in the first ray on a crispy morn.
 When you wake up in the morning hush,
 I will be in the soft uplifting rush,
 of quiet birds in circled flight.
 I'll be in the twinkling stars at night.
 I'll be your echo deep in a mountain.
 I'll be in the gurgling of a forest fountain.
 I'll be in the lonely cry of the fish eagle,
 soaring high and majestically regal.
 I'll be in the scent of Fynbos in flower.
 I am the fresh smell of the earth after
 a shower.
 I'll be in a cool forest shade
 among the ferns in a leafy glade.
 God has just come to take me Home.
 I am around and not alone.
 This God's heaven for you may share.
 So please look round and please
 do care.
 So do not mourn at my grave and cry
 I am not there, I did not die.

Cats are prone to chronic inflammatory diseases of the mouth including gingivitis (inflammation of gums) and stomatitis (inflammation of oral mucous membranes). Chronic inflammation in the mouth and gums may be due to three or a combination of factors: immunosuppression; viral or bacterial infections; or hyperresponsiveness. We'll concentrate on the latter condition.

Chronic gingivitis & stomatitis

Some cats may have a hypersensitivity or allergic reaction to bacterial plaque. This results in lymphocytic-plasmacytic gingivitis stomatitis (LPGS) which affects the entire mouth. In this disease certain cells involved in the immune system, lymphocytes and plasma cells move into tissues of the mouth causing severe inflammation where the tooth meets the gum line. Another possible cause may be an allergy to food or fleas which may manifest as skin and oral lesions.



Sometimes this disease can develop when the cat is young. It may occur at 3-5 months when the permanent teeth are erupting and become more severe by 9 months of age. Cats who are immunosuppressed have a greater tendency to have oral infections which may become chronic.

Chronic gingivitis and stomatitis can cause severe pain. The animal's behaviour may change to irritability, aggressiveness, depression or reclusiveness. The cat may drool excessively, have difficulty eating or not eat at all. They'll often have halitosis and may not groom themselves adequately. Their gums bleed easily.

Bacteria play a major role in plaque formation. When bacteria living on food remnants in the mouth combine with saliva and food debris in the channel between the tooth and gum, plaque forms and accumulates on the tooth. When bacteria continue to grow in the plaque and, as calcium salts are deposited, the plaque hardens to become tartar.

If the chronic stomatitis/gingivitis is due to plaque intolerance, then it's essential to remove all plaque and keep it off. This is done through: regular dental cleaning by your vet; fluoride application by your vet; teeth extraction for resorption lesions or severe periodontal disease; daily brushing and applying chlorhexidine; antibiotics; corticosteroids; good nutrition, often with vitamin supplements, since these cats may not eat as much as they should because of the discomfort.

quotable

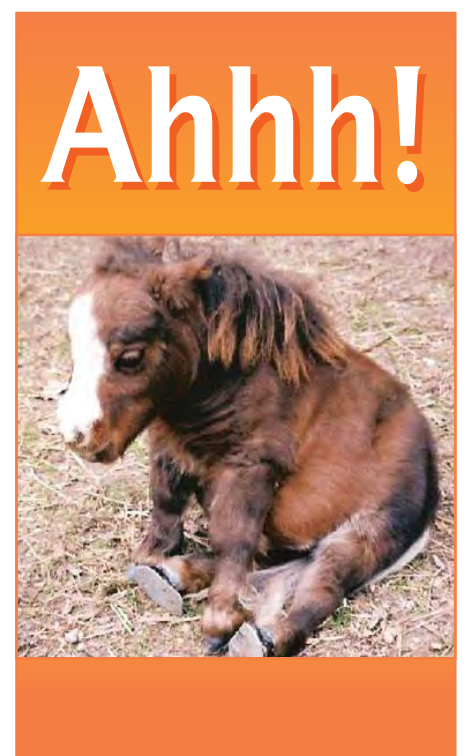
"Dogs are wise. They crawl away into a quiet corner and lick their wounds and don't rejoin the world until they're whole once more." - *Agatha Christie*

"Man is a dog's idea of what God should be." - *Holbrook Jackson*

"Of all God's creatures, there's only one that can't be made slave of the leash. That one is the cat. If man could be crossed with the cat it would improve the man, but it would deteriorate the cat." - *Mark Twain*

"Everything I know I learned from my cat: When you're hungry, eat. When you're tired, nap in a sunbeam. When you go to the vet, pee on your owner." - *Gary Smith*

"Whoever said you can't buy happiness forgot about puppies." - *Gene Hill*



Common in dogs but rare in cats, Cushing's disease (hyperadrenocorticism) is the over-production of the hormone cortisol by the adrenal glands. Most dogs with Cushing's are aged about six years or older but sometimes the disease may occur in younger dogs.

The signs are varied. Some of the more common signs include symmetrical hair loss, pot-bellied appearance, increased appetite, as well as increased drinking and urination. Hair loss caused by Cushing's disease occurs primarily on the body, sparing the head and legs. Usually the skin isn't itchy as with most other skin diseases. When picking up a skin fold on a dog with Cushing's disease, the skin appears thinner than normal. This is noticed predominantly on the under-abdomen. The pet may have fragile blood vessels and may bruise easily. Less common signs of Cushing's are weakness, panting and an abnormal way of walking (stiff or standing or walking with the paws knuckled over).

Different treatment regimes are required for the two types of Cushing's disease. The most common form is caused by overproduction of a hormone by the pituitary gland in the brain that in turn controls the amount of cortisol produced by the adrenal glands. This is pituitary-dependent Cushing's. A small percentage of dogs with Cushing's disease have a tumour of one of the adrenal glands which is called adrenal-dependent Cushing's.



There's no single test to diagnose Cushing's disease. The history, physical exam and results of initial blood and urine tests often provide a strong suspicion for the presence of Cushing's. Laboratory tests that are most commonly altered by Cushing's are an increase in the liver enzyme ALP, increased blood sugar (although not as high as the blood sugar levels of diabetic patients), higher cholesterol and diluted urine.

Nothing cushy about this



Different treatment regimes are required for the two types of Cushing's disease.

The large amount of cortisol in the body suppresses the immune system and predisposes the pet with Cushing's disease to bacterial infections - the most common location being the bladder. Pets with Cushing's may have a silent bladder infection - ie they don't show signs of having the infection such as straining to urinate. A urine culture may be necessary to diagnose the infection.

X-rays of the belly often show a large liver. Occasionally the x-ray will show calcium in the area of one of the adrenal glands that's suggestive of an adrenal tumour. Ultrasound of the belly may show enlarged adrenal glands in pets with pituitary-dependent Cushing's or enlargement of just one of the adrenal glands in pets with an adrenal tumour. The adrenal glands aren't always seen during an ultrasound exam in pets with Cushing's. In some patients with an adrenal tumour, the tumour can be seen growing into large blood vessels close to the adrenal gland or spread of the tumour may be seen in the liver.

Specific tests for Cushing's disease are performed to confirm the diagnosis and determine the type of Cushing's disease present. These have varied results. In some cases the results are clear-cut and the diagnosis is made,

but in other cases a further series of tests must be performed.

Treatment of pituitary-dependent Cushing's disease is lifelong oral medication. The initial treatment is called induction. After induction, medication is given less often, usually once or twice weekly for the life of the pet. Some pets will have a recurrence of Cushing's disease signs later in life despite being on medication. The prognosis for pituitary-dependent Cushing's disease with treatment is usually good. Some signs will disappear quickly and others gradually. Appetite and water consumption usually return to normal in a few weeks whereas full recovery of the fur may take several months.

Adrenal-dependent Cushing's disease is treated by removing the cancerous adrenal gland surgically. Adrenal gland tumours can spread to other parts of the body in which case all the cancer can't be removed surgically.

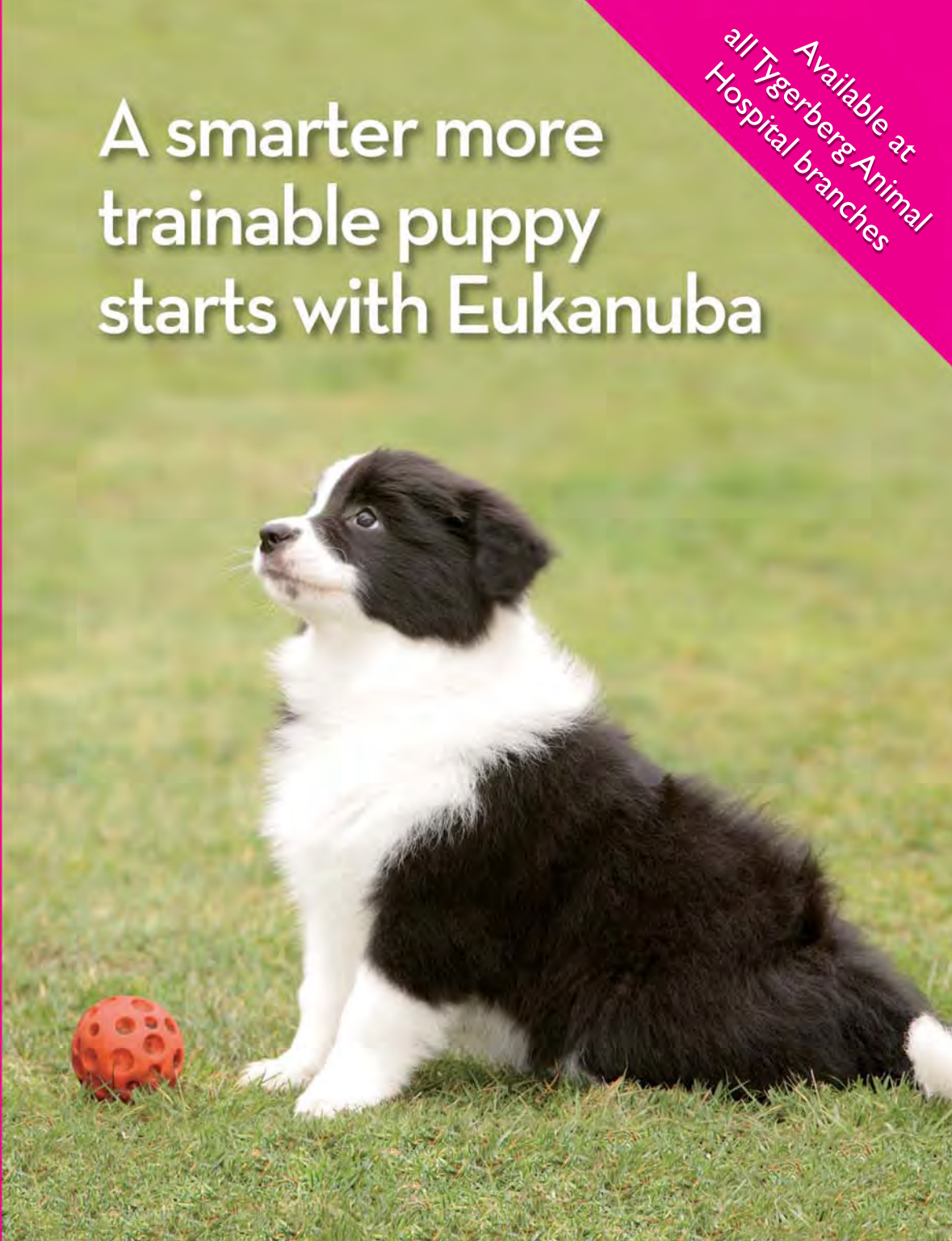
Promo madness

- Buy two bags of Hill's dog food over 10 kg and get a wheelie bin free while stocks last.
- Hills is offering new customers a FREE bag of Prescription Diet J/D. To be eligible for this free bag, clients must not have tried J/D before and their pet must be diagnosed with osteoarthritis. The consultation is for the client's own cost. Offer limited to one per household on one occasion only. Offer valid until 15 December 2010.
- In the clinics only get 10% off any Frontline purchase during September.
- New products: Superwoof 8kg now in a bucket instead of a bag; Microwave Pet Bed Warmer; Dog Bed Kay 9 Cushionzzz; and a new range of Rogz collars, harnesses and leads.



Available at
all Tygerberg Animal
Hospital branches

A smarter more trainable puppy starts with Eukanuba



Eukanuba[®]
Making Good Dogs Great

Eukanuba is the **ONLY BRAND** of pet food clinically
shown to improve puppies ability to learn.

Puppy & Junior

Enriched with DHA, a key brain-building nutrient

For more information on your dog's nutrition, ask your vet or call our helpline: 0800 00 4267
Cube Route (Pty) Ltd, P.O. Box 30366, Kyalami, 1684 E-mail: eukanuba@cuberoute.co.za
Act 36 1947 Reg. No. V15463; V15464; V15465