

# Pawsitive Press

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## Bionutritional Analysis

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In my years of practice, one of the most often asked questions from pet owners is “Doc, what else can I do for my pet?” One of the most frustrating feelings as a doctor and certainly as a pet owner is that feeling of helplessness when sometimes there is seemingly nothing left to offer. As doctors and as pet guardians, we always strive to find the best care for our loved ones, whether it is a new puppy we are welcoming into our home or our faithful geriatric companion that has been with us since puppyhood. At the Animal Hospital of Dunedin, whether, in the past, it has been adding acupuncture, herbal therapies, or homeopathy, we are continually moving forward looking to provide more answers to this pressing question. The latest addition to our toolbox is something known as targeted nutraceutical therapy stemming from a test called a Bionutritional Analysis. The Animal Hospital of Dunedin has the distinction of being one of the few veterinary hospitals in the region to offer this unique test.

Nutrition is one of the most important components of your pet's comprehensive health care plan. When the word nutrition is used, most people think of the diet that



the pet is fed day in and day out. One of the most famous quotes from Hippocrates, the father of modern medicine, is “Let your food be your medicine, and let your medicine be your food.” When one takes this at face value, it certainly seems like he is talking only about the food we find on our plates or in our furry companion's bowl, but it also encompasses herbal and nutraceutical supplements as well.

### So what exactly is a Bionutritional Analysis?

Quite simply, it is a test which analyzes your pet's blood results on a deeper level than routine blood tests. It screens for weakness in organ and glandular function but also is able to assess function on a cellular level. While standard laboratory screens can detect pathologic changes in your pet's body, the Bionutritional Analysis has the ability to dig deeper and identify what are known as metabolic imbalances. Think of these metabolic changes as the early warning system for disease, they indicate a problem before

obvious disease is present. Therefore, even if standard blood screenings are deemed “normal”, this test has the ability to find potential problem areas. The goal of this test is to identify imbalance within the body and then utilize a custom blended nutraceutical powder to restore balance and function to an optimal level.

### What pets can benefit from a Bionutritional Analysis?

The Bionutritional Analysis can be run on any pet, from those with serious disease to those deemed healthy. In the healthy pet, the Bionutritional Analysis can be used to identify minor imbalances within the body. The goal here would be to use the test as a type of preventative medicine identifying imbalance before disease starts so that we can then “fine tune” the system with a custom blended nutritional powder. Think of keeping your car in tip top shape with regular oil changes, tire rotations, and tune ups before the big problems have a chance to show up.

In a pet with disease, the test is used to identify both pathologic and metabolic changes so that we can then use a custom blended nutritional powder to address these changes. The goal of the test and subsequent powder in this case is to help treat obvious disease while making the rest of the body healthier.

### **Bionutritional Cont'd**

This hopefully will allow the doctor to treat the condition more effectively while also allowing the pet to become part of the healing process. All too often, we forget how important it is to treat the pet on a global scale versus focusing on one organ or issue alone. To be the most successful with our treatment, we must try to restore balance and health to the pet's entire body as well as treat the disease.

### **What is this custom blended powder you keep mentioning?**

After the Bionutritional Analysis is run, Animal Nutrition Technologies (ANT) will send the results to your veterinarian. Based on these results, ANT can formulate a custom blended powder. This powder is not an off the shelf pre-made supplement. It is custom made for your pet based on your pet's blood results. The benefit of using this custom made supplement is that it targets the specific imbalance detected in your pet and your pet alone. There is no standard formula, it is all made for your pet once the order is placed. The nutraceuticals that may be found in the powder include high quality vitamins, minerals, amino acids, antioxidants, probiotics, digestive enzymes, glandulars, herbals, and more. Again, the ingredients are chosen based on your pet's imbalances with the goal of restoring and maintaining health. Unlike many over the counter supplements, there are no fillers, binders, or coloring agents.

### **What cases can be helped with the Bionutritional Analysis program?**

Animal Nutrition technologies has been helping pets for over 30 years and has logged over 30,000 cases. Some of the more common cases that can be treated using the Bionutritional Powder are chronic skin issues, chronic gastrointestinal issues, age related degenerative conditions, liver disease and kidney disease. It can also be used for patients with cancer to improve quality of life, which is always the number one concern. Many of these patients suffer from severe imbalance within the body due to both the cancer and oftentimes, the treatments.

While Animal Nutrition Technologies makes no claims of curing cancer, the benefit comes in building the patient up to fight the good fight and in quality of life. The powder can be used with most conventional treatments for any disease but may need to be slightly modified with certain chemotherapies.

### **How do I get started?**

Simple! When visiting our hospital, the staff will draw a blood sample after an examination by one of our doctors. The blood tests required to run the Bionutritional Analysis are a Complete Blood Count (CBC), Chemistry, Thyroid Level, and LDH (Lactate Dehydrogenase) level. Once the panels are available for analysis at Animal Nutrition Technologies, the Analysis is run and we will usually receive results within 5-7 business days. Once the results are in, one of our doctors will discuss the results with you and from there, the custom blended powder can be ordered from Animal Nutrition and within 5-7 days, the powder arrives in a vacuum sealed foil pouch. The

powder is then administered by gradual introduction into the pet's normal food. For more information, call our office or discuss it with one of our doctors at your next visit!

### **What Each Blood Panel Analyzes**

**CBC** - A complete blood count is a blood test used to evaluate your overall health and detect a wide range of disorders. This test measures several components and features of your blood, including: Red blood cells, which carry oxygen, white blood cells, and platelets.

**Chemistry** - A chemistry screen is a blood test that measures the levels of many substances in the blood and organ function. Albumin, Alkaline Phosphatase, Alanine Aminotransferase (ALT), Aspartate Aminotransferase (AST), Bilirubin (total and direct), Blood Glucose, Blood Urea Nitrogen, Calcium (Ca), Carbon Dioxide, Chloride (Cl), Cholesterol and Triglycerides Tests, Creatinine, Gamma-Glutamyl Transferase (GGT), Lactate Dehydrogenase, Phosphate in Blood, Potassium (K), Total Serum Protein, and Uric Acid. The values for these tests and their interpretation should be discussed with your pet's doctor.

**Thyroid Level** - Total T4 level. Thyroid hormone affects the ability of many of the organs and the immune system to function normally.

**LDH Level 1** - A lactate dehydrogenase test is a non-specific test that may be used in the evaluation of a number of diseases and conditions. LD is an enzyme that is found in almost all of the body's cells and is released from cells into the fluid portion of blood when cells are damaged or destroyed. Thus, the blood level of LD is a general indicator of tissue and cellular damage. The level of LD may also rise in other types of body fluids (e.g. cerebrospinal fluid, pleural fluid, etc.) in the presence of certain diseases.



## Value of Nutritional Supplement



In response to recent high-profile incidents, there has been an increase in the level of awareness for the safety and nutritional content for the food that we and our animals consume. In addition, increasing clinical analysis has proven the effectiveness that nutrition plays in promoting good health and also as part of a formal, holistic health remedies.

### Wellness

The Nutritional Blood Test (NBT) is not only beneficial as adjunctive therapy for serious ailments but also for helping to prevent disease in apparently healthy animals. While the NBT has historically been utilized for patients with chronic disorders, an increasing number of veterinarians have begun to utilize the NBT in preventive veterinary medicine for adult and senior patients.

The NBT is based upon the principle that changes occur in the blood before symptoms appear. Since the NBT identifies nutrient requirements and early warning signs of impending disease, it is the perfect tool to incorporate into an animal's annual physical examination.

### Nutraceutical Therapy

Alternative veterinary therapy complements conventional treatment, but it focuses more on the health of the total body and less on signs and symptoms. It is not at odds with conventional practice, but is instead a tool to help support healing and maintain wellness. Because it is based on a Nutritional Blood Test or NBT, it provides proactive and early warning opportunities to detect and improve health through specific and tailored nutritional therapies.

Improving the health and overall quality of life of the animal is achieved when a holistic evaluation and diagnosis is made that seeks to support the immune system and target specific maladies and minimize symptoms over the long-term. A proper and prudent balance of immune support and medical (or surgical) management is the most preferred and integrative form of medical practice and health management.

While nutraceutical therapies are typically gentler than prescribed medications, they achieve long-term affects and health improvement. For example, while arthritis pain can be relieved more quickly by aspirin or prednisone, long-term resolution of pain and inflammation often is dependent upon enhanced nutrition and improved metabolism, which are only addressed through improved nutrition and nutraceutical treatment.

Clinical Analysis has affirmed that optimum nutrition helps slow the onset and progression of chronic disease because it restores balance and promotes healing by supporting the metabolic pathways that energize the healing system. In addition, it helps reduce the inflammation that predisposes an animal to disease. Its use, either alone or in combination with appropriate medication, contributes to the day-to-day wellness of the animal.

### Talking with your VET

Arrange for your animal to visit your veterinarian and request a Nutritional Blood Test (NBT). The NBT requires a copy of your animal's routine blood work (CBC, Super Chem (w/LDH), T-4) along with the 9945 NBT form or a blood test questionnaire. After receiving the NBT results (typically within 3 to 5 days) your veterinarian is entitled to a complimentary Vet-to-Vet consultation with an ANT Veterinarian to go over your animal's NBT results, after which, you may order the custom-blended nutraceutical powder or symptom-oriented liquid remedies either through your veterinarian or directly from Animal Nutrition Technologies.

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(\$49-\$80 Savings)

Includes comprehensive physical exam and one vaccine. Does not include 3yr Rabies vaccine. Must be presented at the time of purchase. Coupon may not be combined with any other offer. NL



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(call for an appointment today 727-733-9351)

Schedule an appointment for your pet's complimentary dental exam with the doctor of your choice. Let us provide a treatment and wellness plan for your pet's dental health. Good dental hygiene provides not only whiter teeth and fresh breath but also helps prevent kidney and heart disease.

\*Patient must have been seen with in the last 12 months\* **Expires 8/31/15 NL**



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