

InClover Spry® respiratory and immune support for cats, clinical data

Upper respiratory infections and similar conditions that impact the ocular and immune system are common health concerns for cats. The causes of these illnesses can in part be attributed to unwanted free radical scavenging (15). In Clover's Spry supplement for cats incorporates antioxidants supplied by blueberries and sweet potatoes to offset the effects of free radicals while L-lysine combats viral infections and prebiotics support the 70% of the immune system housed in the digestive tract. This potent and powerful combination provides protection for the ocular system, fights chronic respiratory infections and strengthens immune defenses, which is especially beneficial for cats suffering from feline herpesvirus (FHV-1) and upper respiratory infections.

Free radicals, a byproduct of energy production, in excess can cause oxidative distress which is associated with many chronic health issues, including those related to the respiratory and ocular systems (7). Antioxidant anthocyanins along with vitamins A, E and C have the ability to neutralize free radicals and prevent damage(12)(7).

Sweet potatoes have high amounts of vitamins A and E. Vitamin A is particularly important for ocular health (11)(9)(10) as well as general body maintenance of the heart, lungs and kidneys(9)(12). The antioxidant properties of vitamin E supports a healthy immune system and is effective in combating bacterial and viral infections (12). Additionally, sweet potatoes contain phytochemicals that possess many health protection benefits. Among these phytochemicals are phenolic compounds anthocyanins which have high antioxidant activity (1)(2)(3). Sweet potatoes also have anti-inflammatory properties due to pigment-related antioxidants (14).

Blueberries have a high concentration of antioxidant vitamin C (11)(9). Vitamin C is well-known to help support the immune system and fight respiratory infections (13). It is also needed for growth and repair of tissues in the body (12). Blueberries are a good source of natural antioxidants (6)(4). The berries have high levels of phenolic acids, in particular, anthocyanins which are found in their deep blue coloring. These pigments are what contribute to the berries strong antioxidant properties(4)(5).

L-lysine is an amino acid that can be used as an antiviral to treat viruses such as feline herpesvirus (FHV-1) (16). Although some studies claim that L-lysine is an ineffective method for treating viruses such as FHV-1 and that it could lower arginine concentration levels, these clinical trials were conducted with very high dosages of L-lysine, which does not accurately reflect plausible amounts (18)(19). Studies that administered clinical amounts of L-lysine, like that found in Spry, showed positive effects against upper respiratory disease and a reduction in FHV-1 symptoms, such as conjunctivitis with no effect on arginine levels (16)(17).

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