

Kaitlyn Carson
iVet vs. Evo

In this study of urine pH in dogs being fed grain-free diets vs. non grain-free diets, four dogs were fed 3 cups (1200 calories) of a non grain-free diet (iVet Energy) for 3 days. Their urine was collected at 12 hours and 24 hours after feeding. On day 3 the diet was changed to grain-free food Evo Weight Management. Each dog was fed 2.6 cups of food (1200 calories). The urine was collected 12 and 24 hours after being fed.

The average urine pH for all 4 dogs being fed iVet was 5.9. The average pH while eating Evo was 6.48. Both pH's were within the normal range for dogs to be considered healthy. At the beginning of the study, the diets chosen did not appear to have a urinary acidifier added to the food based on the ingredient list. Further investigation into the Evo diet revealed ascorbic acid (vitamin C) at high levels. Vitamin C is made by dogs in the liver so they do not need it in their diets. When fed in excess of what is needed, it is excreted unchanged through the kidney and into the urine. This acid added to the urine most likely explains why my hypothesis was incorrect and there was not an unhealthy increase in urine pH with Evo the grain-free diet.