

## Aloe vera for Pet Health

By Dr. Santiago Rodriguez

---

Most scientific data available on Acemannan has been actually generated using animals, since this model allows us to extrapolate what could be the response in humans. However, when we consider the pet world, the results are even more comparable. Of course there is the difference in species, but from the dynamics of life expectancy and size, the results are more evident when we consider them for companion animals such as dogs and cats.

Moreover, actual toxicity data has been generated for an Acemannan rich Aloe vera extract, finding no toxicity when administered at a high dose (2,000 mg/Kg/day) for 6 months to Beagle dogs<sup>1</sup>.

All living organisms depend on a system of defense to keep them clear from disease attack. In mammalian animals this immune system function is very sophisticated and it keeps the animals from getting infected by a host of diseases. A poorly functioning immune system leaves the animal prone to disease. There is clear evidence that orally consumed Acemannan present in Aloe vera juice modulates immune system function, thus contributing to overall pet health<sup>2</sup>. Numerous studies indicate that it is the Acemannan in the Aloe vera that provides the immune system function support<sup>3,4,5</sup>. However, it is imperative for this Acemannan to be bio-available and immunomodulatory or else its functionality will be less<sup>6</sup>. BiAloe® is a premium Aloe vera Freeze Dried powder, certified organic for added purity and safety, which contains the most bio-available, immunomodulatory Acemannan of any product on the market today.

This immune system support activity of BiAloe® was validated by Dr. Vetvicka in a recent study using rats in both in-vivo and in-vitro models showing a clear dose response immune modulating activity<sup>7</sup>.

A very important part of the immune system activity is tissue repair and wound healing. Early studies showed that Aloe vera inner leaf gel accelerated wound healing when administered both topically<sup>8</sup> and orally to laboratory animals<sup>9</sup>. BiAloe® topical formulations are an excellent choice for treating wounds and burns in animals, and when used in a shampoo or soap, leaves the coat shiny and healthy looking.

## References:

- 1- **Fogleman RW, Shellenberger TE, Balmer MF, Carpenter RH, McAnalley BH.** Vet Hum Toxicol. 1992 Apr;34(2):144-7.
- 2- **Im SA, Lee YR, Lee YH, Lee MK, Park YI, Lee S, Kim K, Lee CK.** Arch Pharm Res. 2010 Mar;33(3):451-6. Epub 2010 Mar 30.
- 3- **Pugh N, Ross SA, ElSohly MA, Pasco DS,** Agric Food Chem. 2001 Feb;49(2):1030-4.
- 4- **Talmadge J, Chavez J, Jacobs L, Munger C, Chinnah T, Chow JT, Williamson D, Yates K,** Int Immunopharmacol. 2004 Dec 20;4(14):1757-73
- 5- **Davis RH, Parker WL, Samson RT, Murdoch DP.** J Am Podiatr Med Assoc. 1991 Sep;81(9):473-8.
- 6- **Im SA, Oh ST, Song S, et al.** International Immunopharmacology. 2005;5(2):271-279.
- 7- **Vaclav Vetvicka.** Evaluation of immunological activities of an organic freeze dried inner leaf Aloe vera L. powder. University of Louisville, Department of Pathology, Louisville, KY, USA. April 2012.
- 8- **Mendonça FA, Passarini Junior JR, Esquisatto MA, Mendonça JS, Franchini CC, Santos GM** Acta Cir Bras. 2009 Mar-Apr;24(2):150-5.
- 9- **Davis RH, Leitner MG, Russo JM, Byrne ME.** J Am Podiatr Med Assoc. 1989 Nov;79(11):559-62.