



## Technical Brief: Canine Study Abstract

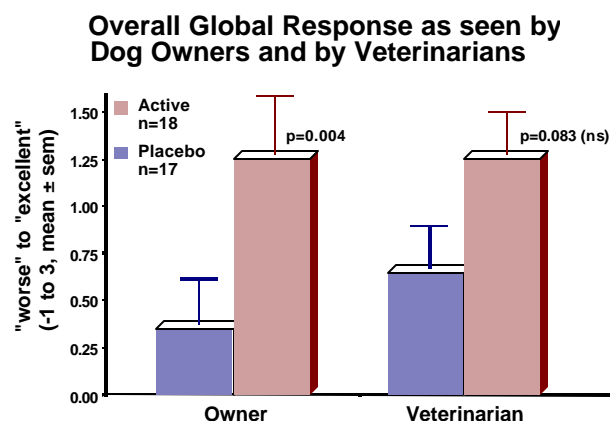
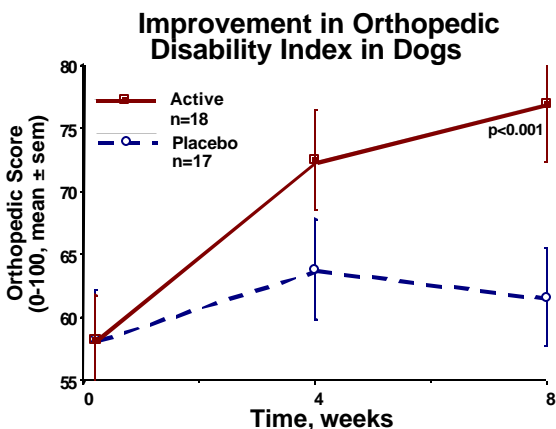
### Use of Client-specific Outcome Measures to Assess Treatment Effects in Geriatric, Arthritic Dogs: Controlled Clinical Evaluation of a Dietary Supplement

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Fifty client owned, large breed dogs aged 7-12 years, presenting with signs of osteoarthritis at five veterinary practices in the Cincinnati area were randomized into placebo and active treatment groups. Degree of disability due to osteoarthritis was assessed by physical examination before and after the study, standard questionnaire on daily activities, a case-specific questionnaire consisting of identification of specific impairments of concern to either the owner or the dog, and owner and veterinarian global assessments of response to treatment.

The test product consisted of a special milk protein concentrate (SMPC) prepared from the milk of hyperimmunized cows, previously shown to express anti-inflammatory and anti-arthritic activity in humans. After a 1 week placebo run-in period, each dog was randomized to treatment and given 2 gelatin capsules twice daily containing either 500 mg SMPC or a placebo powder, on a double-blind basis, over an eight week period. Clinical assessments were conducted biweekly and owners and veterinarians were asked to rate the overall response on a poor, fair, good, or excellent basis.

Seventeen dogs in the placebo and 18 dogs in the SMPC groups completed the entire study. Overall improvement rates reported by owners were 68% and 33% in the active and control groups respectively. Significant ( $p < 0.05$ ) improvement in mean standardized and patient-specific questionnaire scores and in owner global assessments was detected in the dogs in the SMPC group but not in the placebo group. The treatment response was significantly greater in the SMPC compared to the placebo groups with regard to orthopedic scores ( $p < 0.001$ ) and owner global assessments ( $p = 0.004$ ).



Regarding safety, no adverse effects were reported and serum chemistry findings remained normal; no indication of gastrointestinal, renal, or hematological toxicity was encountered.