

GASTROINTESTINAL TRACT



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1 Why has the packaging changed colour?

We have moved from a patchwork of colours that made navigation harder, to a limited number of colours supporting the new Veterinary Health Nutrition organisation, based in 6 core pet health needs: Urinary, Dermatology, Weight Management, Gastrointestinal Tract, Vital Support and Health Management.

This new colour code will help improve product recognition on shelf. To ensure better identification, a specific colour gradation was used to cluster different indications within a same health need.

The ROYAL CANIN® GASTROINTESTINAL TRACT range now has a distinctive brown colour code. Within this core pet health need, there are 3 indications with slight brown variations:

3 SUB-RANGES



GASTROINTESTINAL

GASTROINTESTINAL
Dry / Wet

GASTROINTESTINAL FIBRE REPONSE
Dry

GASTROINTESTINAL HAIRBALL
Dry

GASTROINTESTINAL MODERATE CALORIE
Dry / Wet

GASTROINTESTINAL KITTEN
Dry / Wet

HEPATIC

HEPATIC
Dry

CONVALESCENCE

RECOVERY
Wet

RECOVERY LIQUID*
Liquid



GASTROINTESTINAL
Dry / Wet

GASTROINTESTINAL HIGH FIBRE
Dry

GASTROINTESTINAL LOW FAT
Dry / Wet

GASTROINTESTINAL MODERATE CALORIE
Dry

GASTROINTESTINAL PUPPY
Dry / Wet

HEPATIC
Dry / Wet

RECOVERY
Wet

GI HIGH ENERGY LIQUID*
Liquid

GI LOW FAT LIQUID*
Liquid

RECOVERY LIQUID*
Liquid

**Liquid diet packaging has not been updated and an explanation has been provided later on in this document*

2 Did the ROYAL CANIN® GASTROINTESTINAL HIGH FIBRE formula change from the current ROYAL CANIN® FIBRE RESPONSE dog?

Both products are very similar (there was only minor formula change). The name change was decided to better differentiate the canine and feline products, as they have different compositions and indications.



ROYAL CANIN® GASTROINTESTINAL HIGH FIBRE for dogs is a fibre rich diet with an optimal blend of soluble and insoluble fibres to help regulate intestinal transit. It is a diet recommended for fibre responsive colitis / diarrhoea (including stress diarrhoea).

In some cases (for example impaired bowel movement), a high fibre diet might support dogs suffering with constipation. However, in other cases of constipation (especially if associated with dehydration, mechanical obstruction or obstipation), a diet high in insoluble fibres may increase faecal volume which is not indicated. In these cases a low residue diet such as **GASTROINTESTINAL** may be more appropriate.

On the other hand, the cat product, which keep its name **ROYAL CANIN® GASTROINTESTINAL FIBRE RESPONSE**, features a highly digestible formula with balanced fibres, including prebiotics, to support a healthy digestion and transit. This diet mainly contains soluble fibres and is not considered a high fibre diet. It is recommended in cases of acute or chronic constipation, and megacolon of non-obstructive origin.

3 Why is GASTROINTESTINAL HAIRBALL® now part of the GASTROINTESTINAL TRACT range?

Ingested hairs can accumulate into hairballs, which may cause constipation, appetite loss, and vomiting in cats. These symptoms are common signs of gastrointestinal tract issues.



ROYAL CANIN® GASTROINTESTINAL HAIRBALL has a specific blend of fibres (including psyllium) that helps to eliminate ingested hair and control hairball formation.

Additionally, as it is the case of all **ROYAL CANIN® GASTROINTESTINAL** products, it is a highly digestible formula with balanced fibres, including prebiotics, to support a healthy digestion and transit.

4 Can the new* GASTROINTESTINAL PUPPY and KITTEN diets be used to feed adult pets?



GASTROINTESTINAL PUPPY and **GASTROINTESTINAL KITTEN** are designed to meet growing pets' needs.

To achieve that specific objective, they feature high energy formulas and adapted levels of nutrients, including protein and calcium. For adult pets, the **ROYAL CANIN® GASTROINTESTINAL TRACT** range offers other options more adapted to their nutritional needs, according to the symptoms presented. For cases of pregnancy and lactation, **GASTROINTESTINAL PUPPY** or **KITTEN** are suitable and should be recommended over the adult diets.

** This question and answer are also valid for **GASTROINTESTINAL PUPPY** dry diet, which changed its name from **GASTROINTESTINAL JUNIOR**.*



5 What is the difference between GASTROINTESTINAL JUNIOR and GASTROINTESTINAL PUPPY?

There were no formula changes between GASTROINTESTINAL JUNIOR and GASTROINTESTINAL PUPPY, only a name change.

Together, the puppy and kitten diets comprise a complete offer for growing pets with digestive disorders, because of their high energy formulas and adapted levels of nutrients, including proteins and calcium.

6 How is the new GASTROINTESTINAL KITTEN diet different from the regular kitten product?

The GASTROINTESTINAL KITTEN formulas are designed for kittens with gastrointestinal issues.



This diet features a highly digestible formula with balanced fibres, including prebiotics, to support a healthy digestion and transit.

GASTROINTESTINAL KITTEN is not designed to feed kittens without symptoms of gastrointestinal problems, such as diarrhoea, vomiting, malnutrition, anorexia.

7 What is the difference between GASTROINTESTINAL MODERATE CALORIE and GASTROINTESTINAL LOW FAT?

These products are different for several reasons.

Firstly, the energy contained in the diets. Whereas GASTROINTESTINAL MODERATE CALORIE offers an

option with reduced calories, GASTROINTESTINAL LOW FAT does not restrict calories when compared to canine GASTROINTESTINAL.

Secondly, the intended use. GASTROINTESTINAL MODERATE CALORIE was designed to support the nutritional management of gastrointestinal disorders when a weight management programme is in place. Given its moderate calorie levels, it is also a diet that may be used for long-term disease management while maintaining a healthy weight.

On the other hand, GASTROINTESTINAL LOW FAT was designed for dogs with fat restrictive conditions, such as pancreatitis and lymphangiectasia.

8 Why has the faecal score charts' scale been altered? (dry stool now has the lowest score)

Since 2017, Royal Canin has reviewed this scale in its study protocols and scientific communication to better fit scientific community standards.

This will improve the overall coherence across different channels, reinforcing veterinarian's expert recommendation through clearer discussions with pet owners.

9 Why the move to an 85g pouch for cats and 100g pouch for dogs?

The pouch packaging is primarily designed for single serve feeding.

This pouch weight is aligned within the Veterinary Health Nutrition wet cat diets..

10 Why haven't the liquid diets changed pack design?

Liquid diets are a relatively recent launch, having arrived in 2016, and veterinarians are still getting familiarised with it in many countries. To avoid confusion at this initial stage, names and designs are maintained as they were since launch.



11 What are the main differences between **SENSITIVITY CONTROL** and the **GASTROINTESTINAL** products?

Although **SENSITIVITY CONTROL** is a high quality, complete and balanced diet, we recommend choosing **GASTROINTESTINAL** products as a first diet when dealing with patients suffering with gastrointestinal diseases. This is because the **GASTROINTESTINAL TRACT** range offers specialised support for different conditions, and provides advanced nutritional benefits such as specific fibre blends and high digestibility.

12 Why are the **REHYDRATION SUPPORT** and **CONVALESCENCE SUPPORT** products discontinued? What alternative product do you recommend?

Recent demand for those products has steadily decreased, likely due to the evolution of veterinary care and nutrition.

The use of “rehydration products” has progressively been replaced by other practices including:

- Veterinary assessment in cases of suspected dehydration
- Hospitalisation and fluid therapy in case of confirmed clinical dehydration
- Early, adequate (complete and balanced) nutrition for hospitalised patients such as **RECOVERY** or **RECOVERY LIQUID**.

13 Are there any specific recommendations for product transition to the new diets for my clients?

A gradual transition is usually advised when starting any new bag. We recommend having the same approach for these changes to reduce the risk of digestive upset. We advise to manage the transition over a 5-7 day period.

