



Compassionate Care

State-of-the Art Medicine

## Advice to Pet Owners on the Pet Food Recall

Menu Foods, Inc., has issued a recall on all its "cuts and gravy" style dog and cat food products manufactured between December 3, 2006, and March 6, 2007.

**These include canned and semi-moist foods only. No dry food is affected.**

A list of affected foods is available at: <http://www.menufoods.com/recall/index.html>

If you have any of the products identified on these lists, immediately stop feeding them to your pet. If you suspect that your pet has been affected by a recalled food, take the following three steps to help your veterinarian with your pet's diagnosis:

Retain food samples for analysis.

Document product name, type of product and manufacturing information.

Document product consumption and the time of onset of clinical signs.

Although the exact cause is not currently known (aminopterin, a rodenticide, is suspected), animals that have become ill after consuming these products have shown signs of acute kidney failure.

Dr. Sandra Willis, DVM, a board certified diplomate, advises that signs of kidney failure include loss of appetite, lethargy, vomiting, diarrhea, changes in water consumption and also changes in urination. Anybody who has a pet that exhibits any of these signs should take their pet to a veterinarian.

"Owners shouldn't panic, because there can be a wide variety of reasons a pet might exhibit these symptoms," Dr. Willis explained. "But it's always prudent that, when a pet is exhibiting any signs of illness, the pet owner should contact their veterinarian immediately."

**The Animal Medical Center of New York City states;**

**If your pet has eaten a recalled pet food, he or she should be seen by a veterinarian, whether or not they are sick. Some pets appear well but have abnormal tests.**

**The time course between eating the recalled food and developing kidney failure is currently unknown. Some cases appear to have a rapid onset of kidney failure, while others seem to have kidney damage occurring slowly over time. You should have your pet tested if it consumed the recalled diets.**

### Screening Kidney Function in Patients Exposed to Recalled Foods

Blood and urine tests are required to evaluate kidney function.

BUN and creatinine levels in blood help assess kidney function. If either of these levels measure at the high end of the normal range the test should be repeated in 24 to 48 hours to ensure the values are not increasing over time.

Urine tests are required to evaluate the ability of the kidneys to concentrate the urine and to look for the presence of cellular casts and crystals.

For more information please visit our web site at [www.BelmontHeightsVet.com](http://www.BelmontHeightsVet.com)

Please monitor the AVMA Web site ([www.avma.org](http://www.avma.org)) for the latest information on the recall.  
Consumers with questions for the manufacturer can contact Menu Foods, Inc. at 1-866-895-2708.

**Dr. Rumm & the Staff of Belmont Heights Animal Hospital  
THANK YOU for trusting us with the care of your best friends.**