**Bioregulatory Medicine and Homotoxicology for Animals**

Bioregulatory medicine is a system of wellness that strives to help the body be in balance. Metabolism of nutrition, cleaning out toxins and waste products, and communication between all the parts of the body are key components of bioregulatory medicine. The extracellular matrix, or substance between the cells of the body, are where most of this work happens within the body. This is where gunk can get gummed up if detoxification is not happening effectively. For example, sugars can actually build up in the extracellular space during diabetes. With extraneous molecules interfering with movement of enzymes and nerve signals, communication and nutrient transport can be hindered. Although this is an over-simplification of the process, think about congestion on a highway: if everyone is carpooling and obeying the laws, traffic should flow smoothly and on time. If not, jams happen and efficiency is delayed. There is more chance for a wreck and fatality.

How do toxins begin to build up in the extracellular space? Toxins can be the natural by product of metabolism, or normal functions of the body’s cells. For example, ammonia and lactic acid are normal and can be recycled and reconstituted into useful molecules. When they are not recycled, though, they build up and become toxic. Toxins can also come from outside of the body, such as pollutants and carcinogens. A body that is in homeostasis, or balance, will use inflammation and excretion to transform or expel toxins that are building up. These are normal functions of a body trying to get back in to balance. We may see these as symptoms of inflammation, such as weepy eyes or skin, diarrhea, vomiting, or eczema. Toxins that build up in the body as a natural byproduct are called homotoxins. Thus the study of homotoxins is called homotoxicology.

Homotoxicology is a system of bioregulatory medicine in which ultra low doses of detoxification remedies are used to treat the homeostasis mechanisms of the body. This is a type of combination [homeopathy](http://www.examiner.com/topic/homeopathy), or vibrational medicine based on the tenet of “like treats like.” The remedies are higher concentrations than in classical homeopathy but have a much lower dose than regular pharmaceuticals. Examples of homotoxicology preparations that have become mainstream are Traumeel by HEEL for anti-inflammatory pain relieving use and sports injuries. For veterinary use, homotoxicology preparations can be used orally, by injection, and as auto-sanguinous (combined with the patient’s own blood) therapy. Injections are non-stinging and can be used in acupuncture points to enhance results. Mesotherapy combines the anti-inflammatory and pain relieving effects of homotoxicology with a local analgesic such as lidocaine near arthritic or painful joints to give additional pain relief.

Homotoxicology can be used as an adjunctive treatment for many conditions. Chronic skin conditions such as atopy or allergies, nerve pain, degenerative joint disease, inflammatory conditions, general detoxification, dementia, liver disease, vaccine reactions, incontinence, and immune system support are some of the general categories of conditions that can benefit from homotoxicology and bioregulatory medicine. Ask your holistic veterinarian for more information if this may be right for your pet.