**Can Holistic Therapy Cure Cancer in My Pet?**

Cancer treatment by means of holistic medicine is a bit of a gray area. Many pet owners that fear allopathic medicine turn to alternative therapy with the hope that a holistic plan will rid their beloved furry companion of the disease. There are certainly a number of human anecdotes in which a person opted for Chinese medicine to be their only form of treatment, forgoing surgery, chemo, radiation or medication. However, with animals, a few things need to be taken into account.

Pet patients innately mask their pain as an instinctual method of survival. Humans, on the other hand, will quickly communicate when they do not feel well. Additionally, there are many more cancer screenings for people than pets, often allowing humans to catch the budding cell growth before it spirals out of control. In this case, a slower, whole body holistic approach might be a stand-alone option. But because cancer in pets is usually discovered when the disease has progressed to an advanced stage, time is of the essence.

Western medicine is known for its fast approach to curing ailments, whereas Eastern medicine is known to take time. When a medical situation is not deemed an emergency, holistic therapy is an ideal, healthy choice with minimal side effects. But sometimes, even holistic vets have to turn to the modern medical setting when it is the best method of treatment for their pet.

However, chemo and radiation and are not always the ideal choice. For example, your pet’s prognosis still might be poor. Financially, an owner might not be able to afford Western cancer treatment. A pet might also have severe reactions, worse than the normal side effects, that would decrease the quality of life. Overall, the well-being of a pet is not just based on longevity. Comfort and happiness are the most important traits to remember when determining a plan of action.

Approximately 50 checks and balances have been overlooked when a tumor appears. This means that, regardless of the treatment option, the body has a lot to undo. When it comes to cancer and alternative therapy in your pet, holistic treatments are often recommended to be done in conjunction with conventional medicine in what is called adjunctive therapy. If an owner chooses to follow through with radiation or chemotherapy, then supplements, herbs, nutrition or acupuncture could help ease the unwelcome side effects. A holistic veterinarian will create an individualized patient plan to assist with the healing process.

Modern cancer procedures have a debilitating effect on the immune system. Therefore, the holistic approach in adjunctive therapy aims to modulate the immune response to see what the body can correct on its own. A medicinal herbal detox, such as with turmeric and mushrooms, is beneficial, along with antioxidants, including milk thistle and coenzyme Q10. Dietary modification, like feeding leafy green vegetables, low-carbs and organ meat, can increase immunity. Sometimes, though, oncologists do not want their patients receiving excess antioxidants. Nevertheless, a healthy, fresh diet is always beneficial.

Vitamin and mineral supplements can also aid your pet’s prognosis. Rx Vitamin’s Onco Support is an overall tonic that increases vitality. Standard Process’s Immune Support aids in nutrition, too.

Minimizing environmental stressors is key as well due to the relationship between stress levels and immune function. Acupuncture can help in this regard. Despite occasional theories, acupuncture has not been proven to accelerate cancer.

Whether allopathic or holistic medicine is used, most cancers are not “cured” but rather put into remission or the survival time simply extended. Dealing with your loyal, four-legged family member’s cancer diagnosis is never easy, but adjunctive therapy is a step toward improving your pet’s well-being. Without a doubt, holistic therapy plays an important role in your pet’s welfare during cancer treatment.

Sources:

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