

Hi Dale,

Thank you for taking the time to help others whose pets have renal disease. My 14 year old shih-tzu, Max, was diagnosed last year with chronic renal disease, and I've been home cooking him Ben's recipe for a year, and he loves it:). I took it a step further and finally caved and spent \$450 for a visit to a certified nutritionist (\$200 for the visit and \$250 for the specific diet plan). Your recipe was almost exactly the same as the Expert's recommendation! I'm writing to you to share the few additions.

Fish Oil:

Here's a link for pure certified fish oils, to avoid buying any oil with contaminants. The nutritionist recommended Nordic Naturals Omega 3 Pet liquid as a pure oil. I had already bought Bonnie and Clyde brand, but both are on this list of certified pure oils. <http://www.nutrasource.ca/ifos/product-reports/default.aspx>.

Treats:

I also thought the nutritionist's recommended treats were interesting: unsalted brown rice cakes, plain cheerios, strawberries, blackberries, blueberries, raspberries, bananas, baby carrots, zucchini, apple sauce, pear, peach, pineapple, and watermelon. (No meat as treats for renal disease because of high protein).

Supplement:

The certified nutritionist gave my dog Balance IT Canine-K Formula (to be introduced slowly) for vitamins, minerals and amino acids. My dog is 15 pounds and the suggested daily amount is 2 1/2 tsps. This supplement can be found at the manufacturer's website: balanceit.com, but they may need a veterinary code (which you can get from your vet) to purchase. On the site there's a link to get vet approval. <https://secure.balanceit.com/marketplace2.2/index.php?m=homemade>
The nutritionist also recommended Canola oil for linoleic acid and alpha-linolenic acid (2 tsps daily for my 15 lb dog).

Overall, Ben's recipe is fantastic.

Reminder for all, which is worth repeating... Toxic to Dogs: The following could be Toxic: NO grapes/raisins, garlic, onions, chocolate or anything containing the sweetener xylitol.

Hope that helps!