Myth 5: Feeding raw meaty diets (BARF) are better than feeding manufactured pet food

BACKGROUND

Raw feeding is the practice of feeding dogs and cats a diet primarily of uncooked meat and bones. This is also known as BARF (Biologically Appropriate Raw Foods).

Supporters of raw feeding believe that the natural diet of an animal in the wild is its most ideal diet and try to mimic a similar diet for their domestic companion. They are commonly opposed to commercial pet foods, which they consider poor substitutes for raw feed.

TRUTH

Feeding raw meaty diets are a health risk to pet and owner.

Raw meaty diets provide no guarantee of complete and balanced nutrition. Meaty raw materials can contain contaminants such as Salmonella or parasites. There is a health risk for pets eating raw meat diets as bones can cause broken teeth, choking and gut obstruction.

Commercial pet food that is developed by an experienced pet food formulator like Mars, contains a balanced diet that includes all the nutrients the pet needs for its age and lifestyle.