

## **A new water additive (VET AQUADENT™ FR3SH™), containing the FR3SH™ technology from natural origin, is as efficient as a water additive containing chlorhexidine to reduce bad breath in dogs and cats.**

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VET AQUADENT™ FR3SH™ is a water additive for dogs and cats containing the FR3SH™ technology (pomegranate, erythritol and inulin, from natural origin) to target the origins of bad breath. Its efficiency to reduce bad breath was tested on healthy pets and compared to a water additive containing chlorhexidine (CHX). Four groups of dogs and cats received either VET AQUADENT™ FR3SH™ (FR3SH, n=24 and 27, respectively) or the CHX formula (n=25 and 19, respectively).

The pets tested the water additive for 14 days and a questionnaire was filled twice daily by the owner to assess, on a 0-7 scale, the strength of breath odour, pleasantness of pet's breath and product's easiness of use and to provide an estimation of the daily water consumption and their perception compared to the usual amount. A Wilcoxon signed-rank test was performed to compare the data over time and a Mann-Whitney test was used to compare groups. Difference was significant if  $p < 0.05$ .

The average score for the strength of breath odor significantly decreased ( $p < 0.01$ ) with both products from day 1 to day 14 (-1.3 in both groups for dogs; -1.2 and -1.1 in cats for FR3SH and CHX, respectively. No statistical difference - NS - between products). The pleasantness of breath odor significantly increased ( $p < 0.01$ ) in all groups (+ 0.9 vs + 1.3 in dogs and +1.3 vs + 1.1 in cats with FR3SH and CHX, respectively. NS between products). With both water additives, around 80% of owners rated their pet's breath smell as good or excellent. There was no significant difference between products for the perception of the amount of water drank by the dog. The easiness of use (score of 6.7/7) and recommendation rate ( $\geq 70\%$ ) were also similar between products.

These data suggest that VET AQUADENT™ FR3SH™ solution is as efficient as a water additive containing chlorhexidine to reduce pet's bad breath.

### **Biography**

Céline Nicolas graduated in Veterinary Medicine in 2005 and as a PhD in 2007 from the University of Nantes (France). She then worked as a Post-doctoral fellow and Research Assistant at the University of Bristol (UK) and at the University of Nice (France). She joined Virbac in 2016 where she is now working as a medical manager.