**Summary**

Giving dental chews of high quality to dogs is part of the passive homcare that helps prevent the formation of plaque and tartar.

Two randomized blinded studies were conducted on different sizes of dogs to assess the effectiveness of a vegetable-based dental chew to reduce plaque and calculus formation and the gingival bleeding.

The chew was compared to two other reference chews with a proven effectiveness on plaque and calculus formation.

**Material and methods**

- **Animals:** 45 small owners’ dogs (<10 kg – Trial 1) or 60 larger owners’ dogs (15-30 kg – Trial 2).
- **Groups:** Random allocation in 3 groups - Control group: no chew given; RC group: dogs received one reference chew (RC) per day (RC1: Hill’s dental chews in trial 1; RC2: Greenies in trial 2) - VF group: dogs received one vegetable chew (Veggiedent FR35H - VF) per day, adapted to body size.
- **Duration and design:** Dogs’ teeth were scaled and polished on Day 0. Dogs were given 1 chew per day (or no chew) for 30 days. All dogs received the same diet fed dry during the study. Assessment of dogs on Day 30 for scoring.
- **Assessments:** Gingival Bleeding Index (GBI)\(^{4}\), plaque and calculus scores\(^{5,6}\) on 9 target teeth at Day 30 + Calculations of Oral Health Index (OHI)\(^{7}\) and Total Mouth Periodontal Score - Gingivitis (TMPS-G, related to GBI)\(^{1}\) on Day 0 and Day 30.
- **Statistics:** one-way ANOVA and Tukey’s multiple comparison test.

**Results**

**Conclusions**

Daily administration of the vegetable dental chew is efficient to reduce plaque and calculus formation and gingival bleeding and has a better efficacy on gingival bleeding than 2 other reference products. It can therefore be used with confidence at home for dental care prevention.