Long-term studies

Dog

Sorbitol 0 or 20% was administered in the diet of pure-bred beagle dogs (eight male and eight female animals per group). Another group received 20% sucrose for comparative purposes. Rice starch was included in the diets of the controls so that the diet consisted of 80% normal diet and 20% carbohydrate. After 52 weeks there was an interim sacrifice of two males and two females per group. The study was terminated at 104 weeks.

Mortalities, gross clinical signs, body weight, food consumption, food conversion ratio, water consumption, ophthalmoscopic signs, neurological signs and dental changes were determined. Haematology, clinical chemistry and urinalysis were conducted at -1, 12, 26, 38, 50, 64, 76, 89 and 100 weeks.

There was an increase in total serum protein, body weight, and organ weight in the 20% sorbitol groups as compared to the 0% group. There was a slight increase in the utilization of food in the 20% sorbitol group. There were no other significant findings (Heywood et al., 1977).

REFERENCES