

NATURAL PET[®] Care



What is osteoarthritis and how to treat this joint problem?

Osteoarthritis is the most common form of joint disease affecting nearly 25 to 30% of pets. It is a common condition in older dogs and occasionally occurs in cats. The resulting stiffness, joint pain and loss of mobility can seriously restrict the daily activities and degrade the quality of life.

Osteoarthritis can occur as a result of wear and tear, trauma to the joints, obesity and strenuous repetitive use on an otherwise normal joint and occurs as the dog or cat ages.

Certainly any dog or cat with congenital joint problem such as dysplasia is going to be more prone to develop osteoarthritis. Dogs who have had injury to a joint such as a fracture involving the joint or a ruptured ligament in the knee will also be more likely to develop osteoarthritis.

The signs and symptoms of osteoarthritis

The signs and symptoms of osteoarthritis will vary as to which joints are involved, the age of the dog or cat and

the severity of the disease. In general, the first symptoms may be an altered gait since the dog or cat will try to put more of its weight on the unaffected limbs.

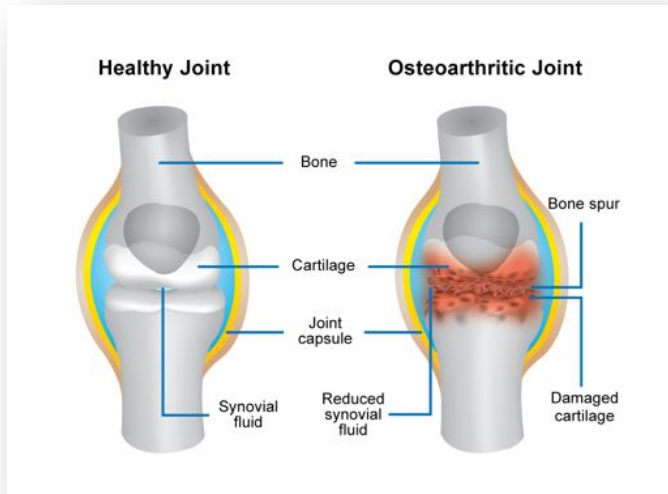
Clinical signs:

- Pain and inflammation
- Limping and lameness
- Difficulty climbing stairs and decline in movement
- Slowness and loss of range of motion

Physiopathological signs:

- Destruction of joint cartilage
- Thickening of subchondral bone
- Reduction of synovial fluid and its viscoelasticity
- Narrowing of joint cavity

Overtime the normally smooth cartilage overlying the ends of joint bones is gradually eroded. Although osteoarthritis is not always accompanied by inflammation, this is a common sign, as is joint pain, loss of mobility and formation of bony growths around the edges of the joint surface. Also, both the concentration and molecular weight of Hyaluronic Acid in the synovial fluid are decreased and has lower viscoelasticity.



These changes affecting the joints typically progress with time and can become increasingly debilitating to the affected individual. In some cases, the condition can progress very quickly.

Treatment to improve and prevent osteoarthritis

Celadrin[®] is an innovative, all natural patented ingredient developed through a proprietary process of esterifying oils. It consists a unique blend instead of isolated cetylmyristoleate (CMO) where research found that this blend was more effective than the isolated CMO.

Benefits:

- provides continuous lubrication in the joint area to improve cell membrane fluidity and elasticity;
- has been clinically shown to reduce pain and inflammation quickly without harmful side effects;
- provides continuous restorative benefits to the joint to counteract the wear and tear on the joint area which is linked to insufficient lubrication and cell membrane fluidity;
- improves overall joint health and functional ability so that your dog or cat can move with ease and pain free.

Glucosamine is an amino monosaccharide that is the most fundamental building block required for the synthesis of several classes of compounds for the maintenance of joint health.

Benefits:

- stimulates proteoglycan synthesis and helps in regeneration of cartilage;
- plays an important role in rebuilding damaged cartilage and protects from further degeneration;

- has been proven to improve mobility and restore flexibility;
- has a mild anti-inflammatory effect to relieve joint pain;
- helps to promote the production of Hyaluronic Acid.

Chondroitin is a complex carbohydrate found naturally in the body required for the synthesis of proteoglycans in joint cartilage, tendons and skin.

Benefits:

- stimulates proteoglycan production as well as Collagen and Hyaluronic acid synthesis;
- reduces joint pain and stops functional impairment;
- inhibits the activity of degradative enzymes in the joint;
- helps to improve joint flexibility and mobility;
- slows down the damage of cartilage and strengthen the cartilage.

Hyaluronic Acid is a glycosaminoglycan found mainly in the synovial fluid that lubricates the joints. It is also naturally present in different connective tissues such as cartilage and skin.

Benefits:

- nourishes the synovial fluid to increase the viscoelasticity and to allow a soft and smooth movement of the joint;
- has a lubricating and shock-absorbing roles to reduce friction between articular cartilage and soft tissue surfaces of joints;
- protects the joints against overuse and shocks;
- has high molecular weight to provide better joint lubrication, shock absorbency and perhaps greater anti-inflammatory effects;

There is no cure for osteoarthritis, so these supplements help to make the symptoms more manageable and relieve joint pain in dogs or cats with osteoarthritis. Together, these supplements work to slow the deterioration process of cartilages and improve the quality of life of pets.