

Joint Disease in dogs.

As dog owners, we cherish these memories and yearn for our furry friends to live a long, comfortable life. It is however unfortunate that with dogs living longer and staying more active in their older years, arthritis has become one of the most common causes of pain.



The main symptom of arthritis is joint pain. Joint pain is seen in both active and sedentary dogs; typically, owners of very active dogs notice the lameness and stiffness

more often. You may be reassured to know that arthritic dogs can live a comfortable existence today with a little bit of knowledge on your part and some advice from your veterinarian.

How can we help relieve the pain?

There are many products and remedies available today that help to ease the pain and suffering caused by arthritic joints. Many will improve the fluid levels in both the synovial fluid and the cartilage.

Nutraceuticals (think “nutrition” and “pharmaceutical”) are foods or naturally occurring chemicals that claim to have a positive medicinal effect.

There are many supplements on the market that promote healthy joints. As a word of caution to all buyers, supplements are not regulated so take the time to research companies and find those that you trust to do their own quality control. Pharmaceutical grade supplements are available, but will typically be higher priced. Supplements are generally given at a higher dose for the first 4 to 6 weeks, then reduced down to a maintenance dose for life

Purchasing a medicated pet food with supplements included is another alternative. The newer joint diets are very good nutritionally and include high levels of