

GlucosaPet™ contains natural and traditional anti-inflammatories like Devil's claw root and Siler root, that exert beneficial effects on various types of inflammatory conditions. Boswellia serrata is an Ayurvedic botanical from India, long used to relieve joint inflammation. All are excellent choices to encourage recovery for your pets. D-Glucosamine sulphate is used to help relieve osteoarthritic symptoms, is effective in reducing joint pain and is a factor of healthy cartilage. Suitable for both cats and dogs, each serving of GlucosaPet™ gives them the recommended daily dose of essential minerals and nutrients for healthy bones, joints and ligaments. Have a look at the ingredients, their properties and amounts below.

the deterioration of cartilage as it promotes cartilage synthesis. It is a factor in is still effective in the repair of cartilaginous tissue. maintaining healthy cartilage and/or joint health. Glucosamine stimulates the production of glycosaminoglycans and proteoglycans. These are essential building blocks of cartilage. Under arthritic conditions, the body's need for glucosamine increases. If the body cannot provide enough glucosamine to meet this increased need, then the joint repair process suffers and the result can be joint and tissue damage. D-glucosamine sulphate is the purest form of glucosamine that is recognized by the body and is best manufactured through enzymatic processes. D-glucosamine sulphate provides the D-isomer form of glucosamine which is 100% utilized/integrated into the body's tissues (tendons, ligaments and sinew).

Methylsulfonylmethane (MSM) (500 mg/5 ml) is an organic sulfur-containing mineral that is used to improve immune function, reduce inflammation and to help restore healthy body tissue. MSM is also used for pain associated with osteoarthritis, degenerative joint problems and helps form connective tissue and repairs joints, tendons and ligaments. MSM has been well researched and shows that it can decrease joint inflammation, improves flexibility and restores collagen production. MSM is a mineral required in the formation of the extra cellular matrix that is an integral part of cartilage formation and restoration.

D-Chondroitin sulphate (150 mg/5 ml) helps to relieve the pain associated with osteoarthritis of the knee and joints, and also helps to inhibit enzymes that are destructive to the joints. Chondroitin is also a major constituent of cartilage. It draws fluid into the tissue, thus promoting water retention to give the cartilage

D-Glucosamine sulphate (500 mg/5 ml) helps to relieve pain associated more elasticity, as well as slowing the break-down by protecting it from destructive with osteoarthritis and osteoarthritis of the knee. It helps to protect against enzymes. D-chondroitin is a more complex molecule than glucosamine, however, it

> Devil's claw root (Harpagophytum procumbens) (20 mg/5 ml) contains bioflavonoids and phytosterols, which are plant-based antioxidants with antispasmodic properties. Because of its anti-inflammatory properties, it helps to relieve joint pain associated with osteoarthritis. It also helps to stimulate the appetite as the root is used as a bitter tonic to support the digestive system. It has analgesic, anti-inflammatory, anti-rheumatic and sedative properties.

> Frankincense resin (Boswellia serrata) (10 mg/5 ml) exerts beneficial effects on allergic respiratory ailments, and exerts beneficial effects on various types of inflammatory conditions. Boswellia serrata comes from a tree from India and the gummy resin is used. *Boswellia* blocks the synthesis of pro-inflammatory 5-lipoxygenase products, including 5-hydroxyeicosatetraenoic acid (5-HETE) and leukotriene B4 (LTB4). It is known that non-steroidal, anti-inflammatory drugs can cause a disruption of glycosaminoglycan synthesis which can accelerate the articular damage in arthritic conditions.

> Siler root (Ledebouriella divaricata) (10 mg/ 5 ml) relieves body aches and supports joint health. It is also useful for rheumatic aches, especially when the ache seems to move from place to place. Siler root in traditional Chinese herbalism is the herb of choice for body aches and pain. It exhibits anti-proliferative, antioxidant and anti-inflammatory activities. It also has analgesic, anti-rheumatic, antimicrobial, carminative, and anti-spasmodic properties.

Arthritis & Hip Dysplasia Problems in Pets

by Joanne Carr, RHN, BA

As our pets get older, they may suffer the same complications of repetitive strain on the joints and tendons as humans do, and can lose some of the lubricating fluid between the joints and vertebrae. Many dogs and cats also suffer from hip dysplasia, which is the result of abnormal development of the hip joint. One or both hips may be involved and it occurs when the combination of weak or poorly developed muscles, connective tissues, and ligaments that should support and maintain joint health is deficient. The term dysplasia refers to the bones surrounding the joint not being held in place properly allowing them to actually move apart causing instability in the joint and the resultant pain, limping and restricted movement suffered by the animal. Hip dysplasia may begin in animals as young as five months old and will only worsen steadily without intervention or treatment. More commonly, hip dysplasia is seen in middle-aged to older animals and is often accompanied by osteoarthritis.

The Importance of Glucosamine and Other Nutrients

One of the key ingredients necessary for cartilage repair is glucosamine. Normally in healthy pets, the body can produce sufficient glucosamine to provide for joint repair. Under arthritic conditions, the need for glucosamine increases. If the body cannot provide enough glucosamine to meet this increased need then the joint repair process suffers and joints can become damaged. Chondroitin sulfate is the major glycosaminoglycan found in cartilage; it also helps inhibit enzymes that are destructive to the joint and has been shown to be an effective treatment for osteoarthritis. Since chondroitin production by the body decreases with aging, supplementation with this compound may be especially helpful for older pets with arthritis.

Addressing the Inflammation of Arthritis

It is vitally important to control the inflammatory process; otherwise there will be further damage to the joint and inhibition of the joint repair process. Methylsulfonylmethane (MSM) is an excellent source of sulfur, which is a key element in many compounds manufactured by the body to help control pain and inflammation. There are several herbs that have been shown to have anti-inflammatory effects: *Boswellia serrata* has been shown to provide anti-inflammatory relief from arthritis by inhibiting pro-inflammatory 5-lipoxygenase chemicals and blocking leukotriene synthesis. Devil's Claw has been reported in some laboratory studies to have significant pain-relieving and anti-inflammatory properties.

Diet & Exercise

There are several lifestyle factors that contribute to the onset and severity of arthritis such as poor diet, obesity, and lack of exercise, just to name a few. Weight loss, dietary changes, and carefully managed exercise levels are extremely important for pets suffering from osteoarthritis. Failure to address these issues will only exacerbate the problem. Try to buy foods and treats

based on quality, not price. Many commercially produced foods contain chemical substances that can negatively affect your pet's health, especially in the long-term. The growing trend today is to feed human grade foods that are fresh and organic. Raw foods for instance contain many essential nutrients and minerals that may be destroyed by cooking and processing. Just as we need to eat a wide range of foods to ensure optimum health, so do our pets. Exercise is also very important to the health of your pet. Take your dog for a walk at least daily and play rambunctiously with your cat frequently. A sedentary lifestyle may contribute to a sluggish metabolism, which can cause weight gain.

The GlucosaPet™ Advantage

Scientifically formulated by Omega Alpha® and clinically evaluated by veterinarians, GlucosaPet™ maintains your pet's mobility by strengthening ligaments and joints. The formula features natural ingredients such as D-Glucosamine sulphate, D-Chondroitin sulphate, Methylsulfonylmethane (MSM), Devil's Claw, and – all commonly taken for conditions associated with joints, tendons and ligaments. Each ingredient has been chosen for its unique effect and/or its synergistic effect with another ingredient. GlucosaPet™ is available in a highly absorbable liquid format.

Your pet can live with arthritis yet still have a high quality lifestyle. To control arthritic pain, it is important to provide the proper nutrients for tissue repair and reduce the related joint and tissue inflammation. Symptoms such as limping, poor gait, and decreased physical activity are merely the result of aging, and daily supplementation with GlucosaPet™ can help many animals enjoy normal and pain-free activities, just like humans!

With 20 years of experience in the holistic health field, Joanne Carr R.H.N., B.A., is a Registered Holistic Nutritionist who has lectured at natural health product seminars for retailers and consumers across Canada. She also contributes to various natural health publications such as Vista, Alive and Healthy Directions. A graduate of the Canadian School of Natural Nutrition, Joanne also holds an honours degree in French translation along with a B.A. in French.

Joanne is the Director of OASIS and the education division as a bilingual nutrition consultant and educator for the human, equine and pet product lines for Omega Alpha®.

References

- Schweiz Arch Tierheilkd. 2004 Feb;146(2):71-9, Dietary support with Boswellia resin in canine inflammatory joint and spinal disease.
- Wegener T. [Degenerative diseases of the musculoskeletal system--overview of current clinical studies of Devil's Claw (Harpagophyti radix)]. Wien Med Wochenschr . 2002;152(15-16):389-92