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FINDING THE RIGHT SOLUTION FOR DOG PAIN

Active Care Food, Treats Bring Non-Pharmaceutical Options to Dogs Suffering with Joint, Hip Pain

Certain supplements have shown in human research to help delay the progression of arthritis, and help with the aching of joints. Dogs are no different. As they get older they start showing signs of stiffness, or maybe they're not as eager to chase their favorite ball or go for a long walk. The fact is that most dogs will eventually suffer from some form of arthritis, back or joint pain.

Today, there are several products from supplemental pills, powders and liquids to veterinarian prescribed pharmaceuticals, as well as an onslaught of confusing information and packaging language. But, what if there was a supplement that helped give a dog the basic building blocks of the joints, enabling the body to continue production of fluid and cartilage within the joint? Working with a food chemist and veterinarian, Breeder's Choice created a healthy dog food with that benefit; administered simply as dog food and delicious treats.

ACTIVE CARE food and treats for dogs is the only product on the market offering FDA-recommended, therapeutic levels of glycosaminoglycan (GAG supplement), and has shown through veterinarian use with dogs suffering from minor to severe osteoarthritis symptoms to improve symptoms of joint aches and hip dysplasia. When administered as part of a regular feeding program to several veterinarian patients suffering from early to severe symptoms, significant improvement in mobility was seen within 8 to 12 weeks of using the recommended daily amounts of the products. In some documented cases, dogs were also able to remove supplemental pharmaceuticals.

ACTIVE CARE contains a patented form of extracted ligaments from chickens and bovine that, when properly folded into a healthy food or treat recipe are easily and readily able to be absorbed through the walls of a dog's stomach, into its bloodstream and directly impact the vitality of the joints. Breeder's Choice recommends using ACTIVE CARE as part of a lifetime nutritional maintenance program for a dog, especially breeds and mixed breed of large dogs, which are often prone to develop arthritic conditions.

Breeder's Choice also realizes that ACTIVE CARE may not be for every dog, and working with Dr. Katalin S. Grant, a Southern California veterinarian, have identified guidelines to help consumer choose the correct osteoarthritic supplement for their dog.

- **Veterinarian Check-Up.** First, see your veterinarian for a complete physical exam to identify your pet's problem areas. At this point, a veterinarian may prescribe pain medication or a specific therapy, and may suggest incorporating supplements.
- **Nutrition-Driven Options.** If you want to forego pharmaceutical applications or your dog is sensitive to pain medications, think about more natural options. Prescription medication is an easy solution, but before you start your dog on any pharmaceutical drugs, be sure you have read the side effects, which can include death. Looking for natural alternatives first might be a safer way to help manage your dog's pain.
- **Identify the GAG Supplement and Understanding Therapeutic Levels.** Look into starting your dog on a therapeutic-level GAG supplement (glycosaminoglycan). GAGs help your pet's cartilage function properly, keeping joints free of pain. GAGs are also what cartilage is made of and are the building blocks that joints need to continue production of cartilage and fluid within the joint. Common names for GAGs are glucosamine and chondroitin. Check each supplement or food product for a good mix of GAGs and a level high enough to have an affect. Supplements with only one part of the GAG may not provide enough joint nutrition, and will not work as well as one including all of the GAGs (made from cartilage substrate). ACTIVE CARE's formula incorporates all the natural GAGs as part of the food matrix, and guarantees GAGs per cup or serving for treats, as indicated on the bag of food and recommended by the FDA.
- **Avoid Over Processed GAGs.** Try to choose a supplement that has not been chemically manipulated, as more manipulation can often reduce the products effectiveness. Look for formulas similar to that found in ACTIVE CARE, which is made with all natural ingredients, no chemicals added or used to purify the products.
- **Cut Back on Pet Fast Food.** Try to eliminate treats which are high in salt, sugars, chemicals or just plain empty calories. Look for treats that bring benefits to a dog. For example the ACTIVE CARE chews and biscuits contain low salt and calories with a high level of GAGs and given daily can also improved joint health.
- **Consider Puppy Prevention.** Finally, if you have a puppy that by the nature of the breed is predisposed to osteoarthritic conditions, such as hip dysplasia, knee problems or back problems, start him on a supplement regime early. ACTIVE CARE is a safe, cartilage-based product that is appropriate to feed dogs at all ages.

Additional consumer information about dog joint therapy can be found at www.GoActiveDog.com.

Tips provided by Dr. Katalin S. Grant DVM, diplomat ABVP

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