



The Way Home

An outreach e-communication from Papillon Haven Rescue (PapHaven)

Issue #92

www.paphaven.org

Spring 2018

2000+ rescued & counting! Celebrating 15+ years!

PHR's auction is approaching fast!

As we enter the spring, thoughts of cleaning out the house are in the forefront of many of our minds. What to do with gently-used items and holiday gifts that are just "not your style"?

Well, here is a solution! PapHaven's bi-annual auction! This is a great opportunity to donate items that you don't have any use for and help a wonderful charity continue to do the good works to save pap and pap-mix dogs.

Interested? Got stuff to donate? Contact a team member for details about getting started. Team member Sharon McGowan has kindly offered to help warehouse the fund raising items. Our team includes Amy Fretz (afretz@ptd.net); Paula Dane (paulascoot@charter.net); & Sharon (mcgowansauer@outlook.com), with Jan Jorolan as backup.

Donations will be accepted until March 15. For questions or further details, please email Jan at jorolan2@yahoo.com.

PapHaven thanks you in advance for all of your help!

Don't miss the savings ... PHR's Spring Auction will begin at 10 a.m. EST on Sunday, April 8, and run until it's conclusion on April 21 at midnight EST.

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- Watch for the next issue of The Way Home for more exciting and informative stories.



SPONSOR ME

please

Some of our PapHaven rescued Papillons need SPECIAL HELP. Some have medical problems that require Specialist or extensive veterinarian care with prolonged treatment and even longer foster care. While PapHaven will do whatever is needed to restore the health of these Special Butterflies, we also need help in doing so.

Hello, my name is Gardenia, and I need your help! Beautiful Gardenia has suffered from GERD for some time which has caused an obstruction in her esophagus that does not allow her to swallow food or water. After consultation with a local vet she was sent to the Emergency Care in critical condition and has cost PapHaven over \$8,000.

We NEED YOUR HELP!



I am a six year old sweet gal in New Jersey. It is so nice to meet you.

I am in foster care now as my previous owner loved me but had health problems so my 2 sisters and I came to PapHaven. I was a happy, outgoing gal, following every step of my foster mom, loving my walks and cuddling on the bed, until disaster struck. I became very sick from not being able to hold down food or water. I was getting very weak as the doctors could not find out what was wrong. So I was put on an IV with nutrition and fluids. Many, many test were done to no avail as there were no symptoms or problems demonstrated at the local Clinic. I spent the last week plus in Emergency Care to save me as I was in critical condition. Next I was transferred to the Internal Medicine department to try to find the cause of my troubles. After more tests, it was decided to do an endoscopy to see where the possible problem might be. It was discovered there was an obstruction of scar tissue growing in the esophagus. I was so scared.... I could not even enjoy being loved on by the helpers. The surgeon together with PapHaven Directors, decided to try to remove it and attack it with steroids. Unfortunately, within 48 hours the scar tissue was growing back, just not as big as first discovered. My Foster Mom came and got me and we are trying to move food and water through the smaller area of scar tissue in my throat. The stay in the busy and loud hospital has made me so anxious and scared. My Foster mom is slowly helping me return to the normal happy gal I once was... I look at my Foster Mom with scared eyes and say: Can you save me? Do I have a future? Is there anything else that can help me? My Foster Mom says she will love me and take care of me for however long I have.



Love Gardenia



P.S. There is one (1), only one - Special Veterinarian in NY that can make a tube type item that could be inserted in the esophagus to open or hold open the restrictive scar tissue in Gardinia's throat so that food and water may pass through. This would be a last effort to save her life. Of course it is hugely expensive and long trip from her Foster Home in NJ. Could you help us save her?

UPDATE: Gardenia is in NY. The specialist hopes to do surgery on Monday 1/15/018 She is in the care of the Animal Medical Center 501East 62nd St, New York

The procedure was completed, and Gardenia is doing well in Foster Home eating and drinking on her own. In 6 weeks she will return to the Specialist for removal of the apparatus and an endoscopy to check the healing.

Meet us in Orlando

PapHaven heads to the Papillon National Speciality

It would seem that spring is upon us early (at least for some regions of our great nation), and it's time to start thinking about the Rescue Parade at the 2018 Papillon Club of America, (PCA) National Speciality.

The National Speciality is being held on June 3-11, 2018 in Orlando Florida at the Park Inn by Radisson Resort & Conference Center, 011 Maingate Lane, Kissimmee Florida 34747; (407 396-1400).

As in recent years, PHR will again make its presence known at Nationals! And we hope to improve our "pawprint" – by expanding our sales and better educating everyone about rescue! **If you plan to attend Nationals and can help PHR in the booth,** contact Jan Jorolan at jorolan@catc.net.

PHR was again asked to do Canine Good Citizenship (CGC) testing at this year's Speciality.



Rescue Parade

In order to make sure we're set, we need to know if you'll be attending. If you've been to a Rescue Parade in the past, then you know what a great time you'll have. If you've never been to one of these events, here's what it's all about.

PCA has a tradition of dedicating the show ring to our wonderful second chance furbabies at the National Speciality – being a PHR rescue is not a requirement! This parade is open to ALL rescue paps. Each person participating receives a goody bag filled with surprises and each dog has a biography that is read as they parade around the ring with their person(s).

The Rescue Parade is scheduled for Wednesday, June 6, at 3 p.m. If you plan to attend and participate in the Rescue Parade, Bonnie Bias (bjbias@gmail.com) needs 2 things from you by April 30, 2018.

1) Please email your contact information and the name of your Papillon.

2) Send short biography about your Pap and a picture of him/her. These bios will be assembled into a booklet and read out loud as our furbkids are walked around the show ring for their special moment. The bio needs to be no more than 3/4 page long and in 16 pt (large) font.

For planning purposes, it's easier to cancel than to add, so if you are thinking of coming and your rescued Pap is to be in the parade, please let us know as soon as possible.

All that is needed to begin is the name of your rescue for the parade. Of course, if you have any questions, contact Jan Jorolan at jorolan@catc.net.

Goody Bags

PHR is also looking for donations of items for the goody bags. We are currently working under the assumption that we could have 25+ rescued paps included in this wonderful event, We are seeking things like small toys, bagged treats, etc. If you're able to help out, please let us know.

PAPILLON HAVEN RESCUE 2018 QUILT DRAWING



CLICK HERE FOR QUILT INFORMATION

http://www.paphaven.info/2018_quiltdrawinginfo.html?r=20180105144006

ENDS MIDNIGHT EST MAY 12TH

OR

UNTIL RESERVE IS MET

If the Reserve of \$500 has not been met by May 12th, 2018, then the drawing will continue until it is met.

\$5 each ticket (or numbers if by email); 3 for \$12

Include your name, address, and how many "tickets"
(actually numbers) you're purchasing.
(Example, I would like to purchase 3 tickets)
You will be assigned numbers via email.

Payments may be made via check or money order* **ONLY***
payable to Papillon Haven Rescue and mail to:

PapHaven
PO Box 20306
Hot Springs AR 71903

Be sure to note the word QUILT on check, and a note with phone number or email addy. so I may contact you with your "ticket" numbers.

QUESTIONS?

EMAIL: PapHavenRescue@yahoo.com

***Sorry, no paypal payments per interstate gaming laws**

Working together we are making a difference - one Papillon at a time.

www.paphaven.org

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Just brushing your dog can

Help alleviate itchy skin

by Lorna Paxton Ladd –

March 10, 2011 2

<http://www.happytailsspa-blog.com/2011/03/10/just-brushing-your-dog-can-help-alleviate-itchy-skin/>

Who knew that something so simple and basic as brushing your dog's coat could help to control and eliminate itchy and irritated skin. When his skin is itchy, inflammatory blood cells and chemical compounds such as histamine and prostaglandins accumulate in the affected area. These are all responsible for the reddening and inflammation that causes the itch.

There are several reasons why brushing can ease that itch.

1. A regular brushing will remove any loose and dead hair from his coat. Not only that, but the action of the brush will remove dander from the surface of his skin, and evenly distribute skin oils through his coat. This can prevent the accumulation of oil and dead cells on your dog's skin which is the perfect breeding ground for bacteria and fungi. These secondary infections can be extremely itchy.
2. Brushing your dog's fur will stimulate his skin, and this will increase blood flow to that area. This results in the quicker removal of chemicals and toxins from the skin and underlying tissues, and a reduction in the inflammation which makes him scratch.
3. If your dog has a long coat, knots and tangles can tug on his skin as he moves, and that is irritating to him. He'll



4. Go over your dog from head to tail with a brush and comb on a weekly basis, and you can check his skin at the same time. Look for any sign of redness or irritation. If you do notice any problem areas, wash him in an oatmeal shampoo that has human grade colloidal oatmeal, which has been proven to relieve skin itching and inflammation. Or try a lavender shampoo which is also excellent for itchy skin (Make sure it's real lavender essential oil and not fragrance). If necessary, follow this with a quick spray of Itchin' for Relief directly onto the itchy spots, and its natural herbs and plant extracts will relieve the itch very quickly.

Hints for Effective Brushing

Never brush your dog when his coat is wet. This can lead to hair breakage, and excessive pulling on his fur which hurts. Use a brush or comb to remove loose hair before you shampoo him, and then let him dry thoroughly before brushing him any more.

It's a good idea to keep a bottle of Dry Dog Instant Clean in your grooming kit with your brushes and combs. If your dog is a bit smelly, this can be sprayed on his dry coat and brushed through. It will clean his fur at the same time as the brushing action eases his itch. It also contains vitamins and herbal extracts which reduce itching, repel insects and add a lovely sheen to his coat.

Soothing your dog's itch can be challenging, but brushing his coat on a regular basis is the first step in making him comfortable. It's easy to do, it doesn't cost anything, and it creates a strong bond between you.

How to Protect Your Dog Against Coyotes & Birds of Prey

<http://www.dogster.com/lifestyle/protect-your-dog-predators-coyotes-birds-of-prey>

If you live in an area frequented by predatory animals, don't just hope for the best. Our tips could save your dog's life.

Up until two years ago, Dolly and Spot were city dogs. The only wildlife they encountered were squirrels and birds of the nonpredatory variety. We did run into a possum once on an after-dark walk, and its glowing eyes and hissing hello sent us running as if a pack of hellhounds were in pursuit.

We live in suburban Phoenix now, just a few blocks from miles and miles of reservation and state lands. More than once I have pulled over to check out a lost dog only to discover it was a coyote that didn't want or need my help. And during a game of fetch in the green space near our home, a large bird at the far end caught my eye, but thankfully not the pups' attention. It was a hawk, just hanging out on the grass. I decided it was time to head inside.

The need to keep pets safe from predator attacks gets its fair share of coverage by the media, but typically only when a coyote snatches a celebrity's dog or a hawk drops a puppy from the sky. Regular dogs and cats go missing every day. Distraught owners often never know the fate of their beloved pets, but in certain areas of the country they can assume the worst.

With that in mind, I put together the following tips for protecting dogs against two common

predators: coyotes and birds of prey. Check out Catster for info specific to kitties.

Coyotes

These pack animals live in every state except Hawaii. Coyotes eat whatever they can find, from seeds and fruit to small animals, both alive and dead. They pose a particular threat to cats and dogs weighing less than 25 pounds. That said, two coyotes could take down a larger animal, according to Rory Aikens, Public Information Officer with the Arizona Game and Fish Department. He explains, "One will keep the dog's attention, while the other comes up behind to hamstring it."

Aikens also corrects a common misunderstanding about coyotes. Many informational resources state that coyotes breed once a year in the spring, and that pet owners should be hyper-aware during this time, because the presence of pups increases food requirements for the pack. Aikens says coyotes can produce up to six litters per year, and stresses the need to stay vigilant no matter the season.

1. Start in your backyard

While a wily coyote can breach just about any barrier, some do exist to keep the predators out if you have the freedom (read: no homeowners association) to install them. A coyote-proof fence measures 6 feet tall or higher and has a roller bar or 15-inch woven-wire extension on top. It also



extends into the ground or has a wire apron to prevent coyotes from digging under and into your yard.

If HOA regulations prevent you from creating such a barrier, do the following to make your yard less attractive to the predators:

- Install motion-sensitive lighting.
- Trim landscaping to eliminate hiding places.
- Add a roof if you have an outside kennel.
- Remove bird feeders, pick up fallen fruits and nuts from trees, and regularly harvest gardens; the food attracts not only coyotes but also their natural prey.
- Keep trash bins in the garage or use animal-resistant models if allowed by your collector.

These efforts also deter invading mountain lions and bobcats, especially if you remove cavellike areas and water sources such as fountains. They also discourage nuisance animals such as possums and raccoons.

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How to Protect Your Dog

(continued from pg. 4)

2. Change your behavior

If you live in an area where coyotes regularly roam, also make a habit of the following:

- Keep food and water bowls inside.
- Supervise your dog while in the yard, especially at dawn and dusk; never tie your dog up outside.
- Close any pet doors before dusk each day.
- Do not allow your dog to interact with wildlife; doing so teaches him or her it's okay to approach strange animals.
- Never feed wildlife.
- Use a 6-foot, nonretractable leash and avoid walking at dawn and dusk.

3. Know how to handle an encounter

If you cross paths with a coyote while walking your dog, get a firm grip on the leash, make eye contact with the predator, and slowly back away. If the coyote approaches, wave your arms over your head and yell at it. I like to think I would shout, "GO AWAY, STUPID COYOTE, OR I'LL DROP AN ANVIL ON YOUR HEAD," but I suspect a terrified sort of grunting would come out instead. If it seems intent on getting closer, start throwing anything within reach – rocks, dirt, a shoe – to let the coyote know you pose a threat. You also can take along a personal alarm, walking stick, and pepper spray for defense.

Use these same scare tactics if you spot a coyote in your yard.

You can shine a flashlight on the coyote or turn a hose on it. "Coyotes are smart, incredibly smart, and they know they cannot survive long if injured. Their response, typically, will be to get the heck out of there," Aikens says.

He also advises, "Don't come between your pet and the wild animal." Now, my first instinct would be to do exactly that, but Aikens says that scaring the coyote off serves as your best course of action. If you concentrate only on grabbing your dog, you take your attention away from the coyote; your dog also may bite you in the stress of the situation. He suggested keeping a baseball bat handy in case you do need to break up a physical altercation between your dog and a coyote. And while harming a coyote while protecting your pet typically won't land you in trouble with the law, the use of certain weapons within city limits may.



Birds of Prey

Which birds of prey soar above your neighborhood depends on where you live. In the Phoenix area and throughout most of the Southwest, the red-tailed and Harris' hawks and the

great horned owl pose the biggest threats to small dogs (weighing less than 20 pounds) and cats. The hawks hunt rodents and ground-dwelling prey during the day, while the owl comes out during low light and at night to catch ground-dwelling and flying animals. Unfortunately, according to Aikens, domestic cats make up a significant portion of the great horned owl's diet in this area. Hawks and owls pose a year-round threat in the Southwest, one that only increases from September through April when northern birds of prey take up residence.

1. Provide additional protection

Many of the actions you take to protect your dog against coyotes will carry over to birds of prey. Adding a roof to an outside kennel or otherwise providing secure shelter in your backyard remains key to keeping your pet safe; if the hawk or owl can't see your dog, he or she doesn't exist as prey. My parents have the perfect setup at their home, a spacious covered patio enclosed by a pool gate. Dolly and Spot can safely nap the afternoon away there, and they regularly do. Also, trim dead branches from trees to eliminate places to perch or nest.

2. Know how to handle an encounter

If a hawk or owl does show up in your yard, bring your dog inside if necessary, then scare the bird off; the beam of a flashlight will send a great horned owl flying. If a bird of prey builds a nest in your yard, keep your dog away until the babies leave, then remove the nest; removing one that contains eggs or nestlings violates state and federal laws, as does harming birds of prey in general.

(continued on pg. 7)

Six Foods to Feed Your Dog When it's Sick

<http://www.akc.org/content/health/articles/six-foods-to-feed-your-dog-when-hes-sick/>

Feeding a sick dog is challenging. Decreased appetite, upset stomach, diarrhea, and vomiting make caring for a sick dog stressful for both you and your pet. A bland diet can help relieve some of these symptoms while also giving your dog the nutrition he needs to recover.

The following six recipes are intended for use for dogs with mild stomach upset, including gas, nausea, constipation, and diarrhea. As these symptoms are occasionally signs of a more serious problem, always check with your vet before taking treatment into your own hands. Only use these recipes once you have ruled out other health risks and discussed your plan with your veterinarian; and remember that dogs with existing health con-

ditions like diabetes, cancer, allergies, and senior dogs might need additional nutrition to stay healthy.

Chicken + Rice

Chicken and rice are prime ingredients in many dog foods, and these mild foods sit well on upset canine stomachs. Plus, this bland meal is easy to prepare. All you need are boneless, skinless chicken breasts and rice. White rice is lower in nutritional value than brown rice, but its blandness makes it more suitable for upset stomachs. Oils, butter, and added seasonings can irritate your dog's stomach and make the problem worse, so stick with plain boiled chicken and rice and save the extra stuff for your own meal. Make sure the chicken is cooked thoroughly and cut or shred it into

small, bite-sized pieces for your dog, since enthusiastic canines might choke on this unexpected treat.

Shredded Chicken

Shredded chicken is easy on upset stomachs and acts as a huge eating incentive for dogs with decreased appetites. Plain, unseasoned, boiled, shredded chicken is easy to digest and is packed with essential vitamins, minerals, fats, and amino acids, making it a great snack for dogs feeling under the weather. Chicken keeps in the fridge for three-to-four days, or you can freeze it for two-to-six months.

Sweet Potato Balls

Dogs love this orange vegetable. Not only is it a great treat, but it also has many health benefits. Sweet potatoes are frequently used in dog food products because they are high in fiber and full of vitamin B6, vitamin A, vitamin C, potassium, and manganese.

(continued on pg. 7)



reprinted with permission of the artist, Adrian Raeside

Six Foods to Feed Your Dog When it's Sick

(continued from pg. 6)

The fiber in sweet potatoes helps regulate dogs with intestinal difficulties like loose stools or constipation. Unseasoned, plain, peeled, cooked, and mashed sweet potatoes make a healthy addition to your pet's existing diet. Talk to your vet about how much sweet potato to feed your dog. If you plan on continuing to use sweet potatoes as a dietary supplement, scoop them into tablespoon-size balls and freeze them for convenience.

Pumpkin

Pumpkin and sweet potato have similar digestive health benefits. Like sweet potatoes, pumpkin is also high in fiber, which helps regulate canine digestive systems. Cooked, peeled, unsalted, and unseasoned pumpkin contains vitamin E, thiamin, niacin, vitamin B6, folate, iron, magnesium, phosphorous, dietary fiber, vitamin A, vitamin C, riboflavin, potassium, copper, and manganese, giving your dog a nutritional boost along with a little digestive help.

Adding pumpkin to your dog's meal usually helps regulate mild constipation. Veterinarians recommend one to four tablespoons of pumpkin, depending on your dog's size. Canned pumpkin is a convenient alternative to preparing pumpkin yourself, as long as it is unseasoned. Feeding your dog a can of pumpkin pie



filling might end up sending you back to the vet, as the spices and sugars could irritate your dog's stomach and cause further complications.

Bone Broth

Bone broth is a very mild, liquid meal that sits easily in upset canine stomachs. It is also a nutritious and delicious way to add moisture and flavor to dry food and encourage dogs with reduced appetites to eat. To make a bone broth for dogs, fill a crock-pot with beef marrow bones or bones with plenty of joints, like turkey and chicken legs. Cover the bones with 2-3 inches of water, cover, and cook on low for 20-24 hours.

Let the broth cool for 2-to-3 hours in the fridge to let the fat form a hardened layer at the top. Scoop it off and store the jelly-like broth in the refrigerator. If you want to use the broth to add moisture to dry food, microwave the broth just long enough for it to go from a semi-solid jelly to a liquid, but not long enough to get hot, as hot broths can burn your dog's mouth. Freeze the broth in

small containers like an ice cube tray for later use.

While bone broth is full of healthy bone marrow, cooked bones themselves are incredibly dangerous for dogs. Make sure you remove all of the bones from your broth before serving. Save yourself a trip to the emergency room and strain the broth

just to make sure no small bones escaped your notice.

Baby Food

Veterinary emergency hospitals often use certain types of baby food to feed the dogs in their care. Baby food is very easy to swallow and digest and is a great way to give oral medications. Veterinarians recommend feeding Stage II meat-based baby foods like chicken, lamb, and turkey, as long as the baby food does not contain any garlic or onion powder.

While none of these recipes should be used as a replacement for proper medical care, feeding a bland diet can alleviate some of your dog's intestinal discomfort while also providing him with foods he'll love. These six recipes for dog digestive health also make delicious treats for when your dog starts feeling better, so consider saving some for later to reward your canine patient.

An In-Depth Look at Joint Supplements for Pet Arthritis

<https://www.vetdepot.com/in-depth-look-at-joint-supplements-pet-arthritis.html>

An In-Depth Look at Joint Supplements for Pet Arthritis

Osteoarthritis, otherwise known as degenerative joint disease, is one of the most common health problems affecting middle aged to older dogs, cats, horses, and other companion animals. Ar-

thritis can develop in response to injuries like ligament ruptures, secondary to developmental disorders like hip dysplasia, or simply as a result of the wear and tear that accumulates in joints over a long life.

Modern treatment recommendations promote a multi-modal approach to dealing with arthritis in pets, meaning that most individuals benefit when the disease is addressed in several different ways at the same time. Depending on each patient's situation, therapy might involve weight loss, physical therapy; acupuncture; non-steroidal anti-inflammatories or NSAIDs (e.g., carprofen, phenylbutazone, or meloxicam); other pain relieving medications like tramadol, gabapentin, or amantidine; stem cell therapy; massage; and cold laser treatments. One additional treatment modality that is almost always part of treating osteoarthritis in pets is the use of joint supplements.

How Joint Supplements Work

Joints are made up of the ends of two or more bones that are covered with cartilage and surrounded by a synovial membrane that makes the fluid that bathes the joint.

Osteoarthritis is characterized by joint inflammation, progressive deterioration of cartilage, a decline in the protective nature of joint fluid, and eventually the development of bony growths around the joint. What pets experience is pain, stiffness, a reluctance to be active, and muscle wasting and weakness around the affected joints.

Joint supplements are one of the few treatment options that actually reverse some of the deleterious changes occurring within

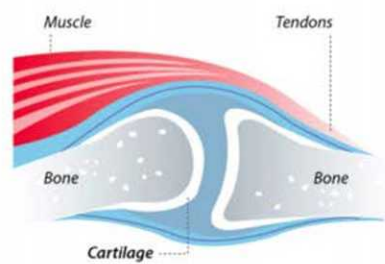
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Arthritis in Pets

Arthritis is one of the most common sources of chronic pain in pets. In cats and dogs, it is most often caused by developmental or degenerative disease or by direct injury to a joint.

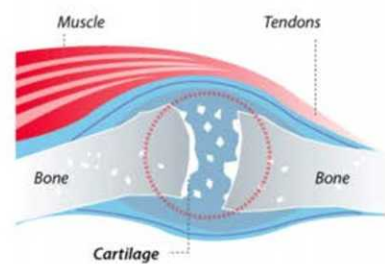
Healthy joint

Cartilage acts as a cushion preventing bone from hitting bone as the joint moves.



Arthritic joint

In arthritic joints, the cartilage has deteriorated, causing the exposed bones to grind into each other.

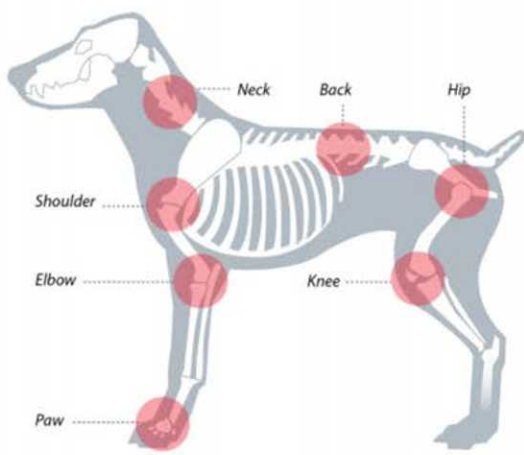


Joint protectants

Types of joint protectants:

- **Injectable pentosan polysulphate**, which is available from specialty, compounding pharmacies
- **Green-lipped mussels** (e.g., Glyco-Flex)
- **PS4FP** – an extract of turmeric
- **Polysulfated glycosaminoglycans** (e.g., Adequan)
- **A combination of chondroitin sulfate, glucosamine hydrochloride, and manganese ascorbate** (e.g., Cosequin)
- **Avocado/Soybean Unsaponifiables (ASU)** (e.g., Dasuquin)
- **Omega 3 Fatty Acids** (e.g. salmon oil, Welactin, or j/d prescription diet dog food)

Problem areas and symptoms



- Pain
- Limping

- Difficulty rising
- Loss of interest to play or walk

- Difficulty with stairs
- Snaps when petted

Joint Supplements for Pet Arthritis

(continued from pg. 8)

the joint rather than just making pets feel less pain. They can:

- Decrease the breakdown of cartilage within the joint,
- Provide the necessary building blocks and otherwise up-regulate the production of new cartilage,
- Boost the secretion of beneficial joint fluid, and/or
- Have a direct anti-inflammatory effect on the synovial membrane.

Possible Side Effects

The potential downside of using supplements as part of the treatment protocol for arthritis is very small. In fact, the Federal Drug Administration does not classify these products as drugs but as nutraceuticals – a food or food ingredient considered to provide medical or health benefits, including the prevention and treatment of disease. When given at very high doses, some pets experience vomiting and/or diarrhea that resolves when they are taken off the supplement, the dosage is reduced, or the product is given with food.

“Joint supplements are so safe that many veterinarians recommend starting them in at-risk patients before arthritis symptoms develop.”

Joint supplements are so safe that many veterinarians recommend starting them in at risk patients before symptoms of osteoarthritis develop and continuing to use them for the life of the animal or until they no longer appear effective. Joint supplements seem to work best in cases of mild to moderate osteoarthritis,

so treatment should begin sooner rather than later in the course of the disease.

A positive side effect that is often seen with joint supplement use is the ability to decrease the dose or frequency of use of other, more potential dangerous medications like NSAIDs (e.g., carprofen, phenylbutazone, and meloxicam).

Types of Supplements

Next to NSAIDs, nutraceuticals are the fastest growing group of health care products in both human and animal health. The best way to choose between all the different types of joint supplements that are available is to start with a product that has the support of scientific research. There is a lot of individual variation with regards to patient response to different types of joint supplements, however. Therefore, if an animal has been on one brand for at least four weeks with little response, it is certainly worth trying several more before concluding that joint supplements as a class are ineffective in that particular patient.

Research has demonstrated the effectiveness of the following types of joint protecting supplements:

- Injectable pentosan polysulphate, which is available from specialty, compounding pharmacies
- Green-lipped mussels (e.g., Glyco-Flex)
- P54FP – an extract of turmeric
- Polysulfated glycosaminoglycans (e.g., Adequan)

- A combination of chondroitin sulfate, glucosamine hydrochloride, and manganese ascorbate (e.g., Cosequin)
- Avocado/Soybean Unsaponifiables (ASU) (e.g., Dasuquin)
- Omega 3 Fatty Acids (e.g. salmon oil, Welactin, or j/d prescription diet dog food)

Because nutraceuticals are not as heavily regulated as are medications, a lot of variation in the quality and effectiveness of products exists. Look closely at ingredient lists, both for what active ingredients are present and also for the amount of each that is included. Reliable manufacturers should be able to provide scientific research supporting the effectiveness of their particular products and quality assurance guarantees.

The National Animal Supplement Council (NASC) was developed help people identify quality supplements and nutraceuticals. Companies that are members of the NASC allow inspectors into their facilities to ensure that they are in compliance with the organization's standards and provide quality-control procedures, adverse event reporting, label guidelines, and warning/caution statements. As a result, these manufacturers can use the NASC logo on their labels. Any joint supplements you buy for your pets should carry the NASC logo and/or be made by a company with an impeccable reputation that is highly recommended by veterinarians.

Check the website listed on pg. 8 to review reference material.

Acupuncture Can Help Dogs

From the Bark.com – by Sara Greenslit, DVM : <http://thebark.com/content/acupuncture-can-help-dogs>

Intervertebral disc disease (IVDD) – what some call a “slipped disc” – can smolder or it can strike full-blown, leaving your dog in excruciating pain and unable to walk. Initially, signs that a dog is afflicted can be subtle: a hesitation about going up or down stairs, paws that knuckle under or cross over, nail scuffing, an arched back, a tense abdomen. Dogs may shy from their food bowls to avoid bending their necks, or cry when picked up.

IVDD causes compression of the spinal cord and leads to weakness, pain and sometimes paralysis, and is divided into two categories: Hansen Type I and II. Type I often swoops in suddenly, usually in younger, smaller dogs ages three to six. The center jelly of the vertebral disc, called the nucleus pulposus, degenerates, then ruptures and presses on the spinal cord. Not surprisingly, the chondrodystrophic breeds (dogs with short legs and longbacks)–

Dachshunds, Corgis, Shih Tzus, Lhasa Apsos, and Beagles – are predisposed to this type.

Type II, which is typically seen in large dogs like German Shepherds, Labradors, and Dobermans ages eight to ten, progresses more slowly. Though the disc doesn't burst its center, it bulges between the vertebrae and impinges on the spinal cord, causing chronic pain and weakness.

To rule out fractures, bone infections, and cancers, your vet will start with X-rays, but a contrast myelogram, CT, or MRI (all of which are often done at specialty centers) is needed to visualize the spinal cord and determine the nature and location of the problem.

In addition to type, IVDD is described by level of severity. Roughly, **grade I** involves pain; **grade II**, unsteadiness; **grade III**, weakness that prevents standing or walking; **grade IV**, paralysis

but able to feel deep pain when the toes are pinched; and **grade V**, complete paralysis with loss of deep pain.

Dogs with grades 1 through IV will likely be managed with pain meds, muscle relaxants and strict rest for up to a month, and are often referred for physical therapy or Class IV laser treatments. Depending on the duration of neurological deficits and amount of pain, surgery may also be recommended for dogs with grades II, III, and IV. Because the disease can change quickly, even dogs diagnosed with lower-grade IVDD need sequential exams to ensure that the condition is not progressing.

When a dog is completely unable to walk, decisions have to be made swiftly. Dogs who stay in the grade V stage longer than 48 hours often remain paralyzed despite intervention, while up to 50 percent of those who have surgery in the first 24 hours may regain their ability to walk.

IVDD surgery removes compromised discs, hemorrhage, and adjacent bone compressing the spinal cord. With severe disease, it's the best chance for a dog to walk again. It does, of course, also entail expenses and risks that not everyone is able or willing to undertake. What other options do we have?

Thankfully, veterinarians have been studying other modalities to treat IVDD, acupuncture among them. In 2007, a team lead by A.M. Hayashi found that dogs of all IVDD grades recovered more quickly with electro-acupuncture (EAP) combined with a standard Western medical approach than

Dogs + Predators:

How to Protect Your Dog

(continued from pg. 5)

3. Educate your neighbors

It takes a neighborhood to ward off predators. “If you're doing everything right, but your neighbor is doing everything wrong, you're going to have conflicts with wildlife,” Aikens says. He stresses the importance of educating newcomers to an area, as they may not fully understand the threat. And while you won't likely convince a bird-loving neighbor to take down her feeders, you can take action if a coyote gets too comfortable due to a neighbor's actions.

“If you've got a wild animal, like a coyote, that has obviously lost its fear of humans, it could pose a danger. We want to hear about that,” Aikens says. You can find contact information for your local office at the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service website.

Acupuncture Help Dogs

(continued from pg. 10)

Western treatment alone (JAVMA 231[6]: 913–918).

In 2009, A. Laim et al. reported that dogs receiving EAP and pain medications after surgery for acute IVDD were less likely to need higher doses of pain meds during the first 12 hours than those who received meds alone. These patients also had significantly lower pain scores 36 hours after treatment (JAVMA 234[9]: 1141–1146).

A 2010 study compared three options for IVDD dogs with severe neurologic deficits of greater than 48 hours' duration: decompressive surgery (DSX), EAP, and DSX followed by EAP (DSX + EAP). The study, led by J.G.F. Joaquim, showed that EAP was more effective than DSX + EAP, and that DSX alone was the least successful. These dogs had severe, long-standing IVDD in the thoracic and lumbar (thoracolumbar) spine, and in the past, their prognosis would have been dismal. (JAVMA 236[11]: 1225–1229).

How does acupuncture work?

While there is some debate over definitions, it's generally accepted that acupuncture points (acupoints) concentrate clusters of free nerve endings, small blood and lymphatic vessels, and mast cells, part of the immune system. A veterinarian certified in acupuncture inserts small, sterile needles into specific points to stimulate muscles, nerves, circulation and the immune system. For IVDD, one needle may be placed at the top of the spine by the shoulders, and a second above the pelvis, which moves the

qi and stagnated energy caused by the disc disease.

Functional MRIs reveal that acupuncture activates pain-associated brain stem regions. The specific mechanism of acupuncture on IVDD has not yet been fully explained, but it's surmised that it reduces local swelling, inflammation and pain; decreases cord compression, scar formation and tissue oxygen deprivation; and restores damaged nerves.

When compared to the use of needles alone, EAP has been found to increase the body's response to acupuncture. In EAP, needles in the skin are connected by metal clips; electro-impulses move between the clips and into the needles, producing sensations that range from a tingling to a vibration. Frequency and intensi-

ty are determined by the type of condition being treated. Sessions usually last from 10 to 30 minutes, and dogs often fall asleep during treatment.

EAP has a cumulative effect and is typically prescribed as a series of treatments, every one to two weeks for at least a few months. Appropriate Chinese herbal formulas are often prescribed at the same time to reduce pain and enhance the effects of acupuncture. Dogs then proceed to maintenance acupuncture at one- to three-month intervals to prevent recurrence.

Ideally, your dog will never go through the pain of IVDD, and you won't have the worry. But if you do find yourself up against a down dog, it's good to know that adding acupuncture to the treatment repertoire may help your friend get back on all fours.



Natural Remedies for Flea & Tick Control

http://www.petmd.com/dog/wellness/evr_multi_flea_control

While we may not be able to roll back the global warming trend, there are easier, softer ways to treat parasites, and ways in which we can avoid some of the pests.

A lot of people are reluctant to use chemical flea treatments because of the possibility of a toxic reaction with the skin. “If it isn’t safe for my children, how can it be safe for my pet,” they ask. Unless it is a full blown flea infestation, you may have good results by using gentler and safer methods for flea eradication and control.

1. Juice ‘Em Away

Fleas are known to be repelled by citrus. A freshly squeezed orange or lemon can be rubbed onto your pet’s fur, with no harm to your pet if it is licked off, and fresh smelling fur to boot.

2. Rub-a-Dub Tub

Remember the old cartoons where dogs would jump into water to relieve themselves of fleas? Water really does work. Since fleas do not grasp onto the hair shafts, they fall off in the water

and drown. A good dip in a tub of water will wash away most, if not all of the fleas on your pet. Using a gentle shampoo, or a little bit of dish liquid, perhaps one with a citrus base (fleas are repelled by lemon and orange), along with thorough and regular brushing, will go a long way toward ridding your pet’s body of fleas.

3. A Clean Home is a Happy Home

Around the house, vacuuming, laundering, and disinfecting the floors and your pet’s living spaces will help to control the population of fleas (just make sure you do not use products with volatile organic compounds). In the yard, you might consider adding a natural predator of fleas. Nematodes are small worms that feed off of flea larva, and are easy to find at garden stores or pet shops. Keep in mind that the type of nematode that is being recommended here is termed a “beneficial” nematode. It is not the type that is known for infecting animals as heartworm.

4. Blades of Fury

Ticks hang out in tall grass and use the opportunity to grab on to passersby when they feel body warmth. If you are going to be spending time in wooded or grassy areas with your dog, you might want to fashion some cover-up clothing for your dog to avoid ticks. An old t-shirt can be altered to fit your dog’s body, and old socks can be cut to make “leg warmers.” This may not entirely prevent ticks from making their way onto your dog, but it keep most of them off since they have nothing to latch onto, and will slow the rest down so they do not spend as much time on your dog’s skin.

5. Essential Oils

Because ticks carry dangerous bacteria, repelling them is a priority. One of the natural repellents that a lot of people have success with is rose geranium oil, which can be applied to your dog’s collar. Do NOT use this on your cat, though. They can have a bad reaction to essential oils. With ticks, the best thing you might do it to check your pet a few times a day when you are in an area that has ticks, and remove them promptly. Proper technique is important for removing ticks and fleas, so make sure that you consult a veterinarian before doing it yourself.

Now that you have a few alternate means of combating fleas and ticks, you can feel confident that your pets will remain bug-free throughout the year — especially in the summertime, when there are plenty of nasty critters to worry about.



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“Dogs come into our lives to teach us about love ... they depart to teach us about loss. A new dog never replaces an old dog, it merely expands the heart. If you have loved many dogs, your heart is very big.” Erica

Jong



ROAD-TRIPPING WITH FIDO?

SHOW SOME RESTRAINT

Although driving without securing a small child in a car seat is illegal in all 50 states, only New Jersey bans pets from riding unrestrained in cars. What's worse: animal restraints—specifically those for dogs—are not widely used, even though pet travel has increased 300 percent since 2005.

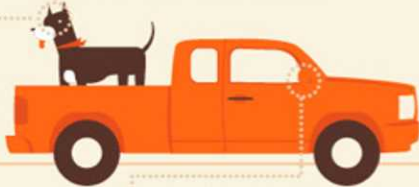
THE SCARY TRUTH



90% of pet owners admit to traveling in a car with a dog.



98% of dogs traveling in a car are not properly restrained.



33% of dog owners admit to being distracted by their pets while driving.



Unrestrained pets could delay emergency responders' access to injured human passengers.



Unrestrained pets could escape through a window and cause a second accident.



At 35 mph, a 60-pound dog becomes a 2,700-pound projectile.

TIPS FOR A SAFER TRIP



Don't allow a dog to ride with its head outside a car window, as dirt and debris can cause injury or infection.



Dogs should never ride on a driver's lap.



Small pets should ride in crates or travel-safe dog beds.



Large dogs should be restrained with harnesses linked to a car's seat belts.

TAKE ACTION

LEARN MORE ABOUT ANIMAL SAFETY AT TAKEPART.COM/ANIMALS