Dietary foods and supplements for the targeted tackling of joint problems in dogs and cats





# My dog or cat has joint problems... what do I do now?





reliable and affordable dietary pet food



The veterinarian has diagnosed joint problems in your dog or cat. A proper treatment is important. The treatment is primarily aimed at keeping your pet as comfortable, active as possible and pain free as possible. This is usually done through the use of pain relieving medication and adjusting the activity. The prevention and treatment of overweight is also important. This brochure gives you insight into these aspects and the role a custom TROVET diet or a nutritional supplement can play.

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Disorders of the joints are common in dogs and are a major cause of lameness and reduced activity. Osteoarthritis (also called degenerative joint disease) is very common in dogs and cats as they get older. Slowly but surely the joints of your dog or cat wear out. Heredity and obesity play a role in the development of joint disorders.



### What factors can cause joint problems?

Joint degeneration has many causes. The degree to which your dog or cat is at risk of developing joint problems depends, among other things on, breed, age and lifestyle.

### Hereditary or congenital defects

A number of deficiencies in some breeds are congenital or hereditary. These animals are more prone to developing joint problems later in life. Dog breeds that are prone to developing joint problems include the German shepherd, Labrador Retriever, Rottweiler and Golden Retriever. In general, rapidly growing large and giant breeds like the Great Danes, are also prone to developing arthritis. There are no cat breeds that are more prone to joint problems.



German shepherd



Labrador Retriever



Rottweiler

### Age

Articular cartilage gradually wears with age. Joint problems are more common in older dogs and cats, but also can also occur in young animals. It is estimated that about twenty percent of dogs and cats over a year of age suffer from joint wear.

### Overweight

Excessive stress on the joints and cartilage, by being overweight, increases the risk of joint problems. Therefore, it is very important to keep your pet on a correct weight and strengthen its muscles.

### Injuries

Previously incurred damages through injury can lead to joint problems in later life. This may impede the mobility of your pet.

### <u>Activities</u>

Not all activities are suitable for dogs and cats that have (the risk of developing) joint problems. These are fast, non-linear movements, like playing with a ball, uneven stress on the joints and climbing stairs. Examples of appropriate activities for dogs are especially swimming and walking with a leisurely pace next to the bike.





### Symptoms of joint problems

Difficulty walking, pain and decreased vitality are just a few symptoms that may indicate a joint problem. The progress of wear and tear on the joints can be slowed down by using dietary foods or dietary supplements. A joint problem such as osteoarthritis is can not always be prevented and cannot be cured. Nutrition often plays an important role in both prevention and treatment of joint problems.

### How to recognise joint problems in dogs?

- > Dawdling when taking walks
- > Stiffness, especially after a period of rest
- > Refusing or having difficulty walking up and down stairs
- > Preference for lying instead of standing or sitting
- > Clear display/expression of pain when touched of affected area
- > Thickening of the joint
- > Lameness
- > Licking the joints
- > Degeneration of muscle tissue

### How to recognise joint problems in cats?

- > Refusing to or having visible effort to jump
- > Stiffness when walking
- > Reduced activity
- > Seeking for more seclusion
- > Less use of the litter box
- > Less grooming
- > Clear display / expression of pain touching the affected area
- > Shorter stays outside
- > Lameness
- > Licking the joints
- > Degeneration of muscle tissue

### Treatment and the role of nutrition

The food your dog or cat eats has a central role in his or her health and well-being. Especially dogs and cats with joint problems may benefit from food and nutritional supplements, to reduce the symptoms. Dietary foods and supplements, which contribute to the prevention or treatment of joint problems, are often enriched with active ingredients that help to reduce the further degradation of the cartilage. These ingredients can also supply the building blocks of cartilage, have anti-inflammatory effects and help to reduce the risk of obesity. In contrast to the use of analgesic medication, which usually work within a few hours, the active ingredients will require several weeks in order to be optimally effective. Your pet will continue to improve up to three months after the start of supplementing the dietary food or supplement.

### TROVET Mobility & Geriatrics | MGD, for dogs

Mobility & Geriatrics dietary food is specially formulated to support the older dog with joint problems. Mobility & Geriatrics can also be used preventively.

The dietary food contains natural products. Active ingredients, such as devil's claw and Boswellia resin, help prevent further degeneration of cartilage and have antiinflammatory properties. A combination of gelatine, glucosamine and chondroitin provide the building blocks for joint cartilage. Added fish oil fatty acids have



a proven anti-inflammatory effect and help reduce pain during movement. As a result, the use of analgesic medication can often be reduced, and can sometimes be entirely omitted. The reduced energy content may help to reduce overweight. In addition, the phosphorous and protein content of this food is reduced, to reduce the stress on the kidneys.

## **TROVET Mobility | MJS**

For a healthy joint a balance between glycosaminoglycan (GAGs) breakdown and formation is needed. A disruption of this balance increases the risk of joint diseases. For optimal joint health, the availability of appropriate quantities of the entire range of GAGs is required. Mobility is a natural dietary supplement, without any added conservatives, to support the joints of dogs and cats. This supplement contains the



GAGs glucosamine and chondroitin sulphate and the precursors heparin, keratin sulphate and dermatan sulphate from green-lipped mussel, abalone and cartilage from fish.

### **Properties**

Glucosamine promotes flexibility of the cartilage. The primary effect of glucosamine consists of the stimulation of the formation of new cartilage. Chondroitin works by inhibiting the breakdown of older cartilage. Together they promote a better vitality of cartilage cells and reduce the loss of GAGs from the cartilage matrix. Glucosamine is also slightly anti-inflammatory. In addition to this, omega 3 fatty acids EPA, DHA and ETA are able to reduce inflammations, which are the cause of pain sensations in joint problems. The various components in this product work synergistically. Several scientific studies have demonstrated the effectiveness of Mobility. Mobility can be fed for life.

### **Application advice**

Mobility is available in powder form and bites. It is not recommended to sprinkle the powder on the kibble because of dust development or film formation. If necessary, use canned food to mix with powder or make a paste.

#### Tip:

Mobility Bites are ideally suited to use as a responsible reward for your dog or cat with joint problems. Mobility Bites are not suitable for animals with gluten-related disorders.

#### **Target animals**

Mobility can be preventively used in animals that have an above average load on their joints and have an increased risk of joint problems. This includes working dogs or dogs that practice agility, but also in preparation for joint surgery. This supplement can pre-eminently be used when the patient that require joint support and are already receiving dietary food. Mobility can be safely combined with medication for pain relief (NSAIDs). In puppies under six months of age there is risk of diarrhoea.

Note: Unlike analgesics, the effect of Mobility is not immediately visible. The effects are visible after 2 to 4 weeks, with the best results after 6 weeks.

#### **CITES** certification

CITES regulates global trade in endangered animal species and protected plant species. It is not allowed to simply trade, transport, collect or keep these species. For this, governments of different countries have rules and agreements and recorded in the CITES treaty. This should prevent the extinction of endangered animals and plants. Mobility meets the regulation of the CITES certification.

### **TROVET Treats**

TROVET has an extensive range of responsible rewards, also known as treats. Most treats are suitable for both healthy dogs and cats, as well as dogs and cats with a special dietary requirement or prescription diet. The TROVET treats are cookies in different shapes and are an ideal reward that can be used during training, after a walk or just as a snack.

The special thing about TROVET treats is that, besides the taste, they are formulated in such a way that they fit well with various diets. Giving 'regular' treats to dogs or cats that get dietary food, can negatively affect the efficacy of these foods. Therefore, carefully choose a treat that fits the situation of your dog or cat. Always ask your veterinarian for more information and advice. TROVET treats are available exclusively via your veterinarian.

For pet owners, there is a more detailed treat brochure 'I want to give my dog or cat something extra besides dietary food... what do I do now?'. You can find these at your veterinary practice or at www.trovet.com.

Mobility Bites are the only treats that support dogs and cats with joint problems. All other treats in the TROVET range can also be prescribed, because they do not interfere with the joint therapy.











For the complete range of TROVET products, visit: www.trovet.com

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