

Cartrophen VET

CARTROPHEN VET® is a unique and revolutionary advance in the treatment of arthritis and other joint diseases and injuries. It provides pain relief by assisting with the healing and recovery of damaged cartilage and soft tissues such as muscles, tendons and ligaments.

Cartrophen is unique in that it relieves pain and lameness by actually treating the disease as opposed to simply masking the symptoms. It stimulates the recovery of damaged cartilage and soft tissues as well as slowing down the degenerative processes which lead to the development and progression of arthritis.

As well as arthritis, Cartrophen is increasingly being used in the treatment of joint injuries and to assist in the recovery of joints following surgery. Joint diseases such as elbow and hip dysplasia can be hugely benefitted both in the early treatment and long-term management of the condition. It can also be used for spinal problems associated with disc disease and spondylosis. Cartrophen has also shown promise in the treatment of other soft tissue diseases such as cystitis by increasing the thickness of the protective Glycosaminoglycan (GAG) layer of the bladder lining.

Cartrophen is very safe with minimal side effects or harmful effects on other organs, unlike conventional anti-inflammatory drugs. This is because it boosts and supports the body's own repair and protective mechanisms and is easily broken down by the body without producing harmful metabolites.

How does Cartrophen work?

1. Cartilage-producing cells (Chondrocytes) are stimulated to secrete proteoglycan which provides the building blocks for cartilage and other joint structures. This improves the integrity of the cartilage and cushioning of the joint surfaces.
2. Synoviocytes (joint-lining cells) are activated to produce Hyaluronic Acid (HA) which increases the quantity and quality of synovial fluid (joint fluid) thus improving the lubrication of the joint surfaces.
3. The blood supply and nutrition of the joint is improved by stimulating levels of 'tissue plasminogen activator' which accelerates the removal of tiny blood clots in and around the damaged joint.
4. Enzymes associated with accelerating joint damage (such as 'collagenase' which breaks down collagen in soft tissues and cartilage) are inhibited.
5. Damaging free radicals are removed by stimulating scavenging enzymes.
6. Enzymes and growth factors which stimulate cartilage formation (e.g. IGF-1) are actively stimulated.

How is Cartrophen given?

Cartrophen is given initially as a course of 4 to 6 injections 1 week apart (5-8 days permissible gap). The injections are given under the skin of the neck and are painless. During this time your pet should only receive gentle exercise as vigorous exercise could aggravate the arthritis and limit the effect of the injections. A small proportion of animals may seem more stiff or sore during the initial course as damaged joint tissues are stimulated and can be more sensitive. A further injection must then be given after one month and then top-up injections are given every 1-3 months as required according to the response seen. Though many will be much improved within the first few weeks, in some cases it is not until after the first monthly top-up that appreciable improvements are seen so be patient! If the effectiveness of the injections decreases or top-ups are missed then the initial loading course may be repeated up to twice a year. Other medications may be given alongside if required to assist with pain management and good quality joint supplements may be beneficial as well. For more information visit: www.cartrophen.com.

