



Home Care Instructions: Chronic Pain/ Arthritis/ Degenerative Joint Disease/Geriatric Support

As our pets get older pain can affect them greatly. We have multiply options to help them with this condition, it's a balancing act of what works for your pet the best. When our pets are limping and having a hard time getting up, this is pain. Continued movement and exercise is vital to maintain muscle strength. It is very important to minimize pain and support joint/skeletal health so that our companions will want and be able to exercise and maintain physical strength. Multimodal pain management is most affective, adding layers as they age.

SUPPLEMENTS:



Dasuquin is a joint supplement formulated specifically for our dogs and cats. It is clinically proven to help with arthritis. See hand out



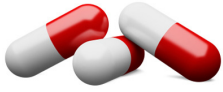
EFA fatty acid supplements such as fish oil supplements are an important part of helping control chronic pain conditions. Salmon or Krill is the best option

DIET:



Hill's® Prescription Diet® j/d® helps improve your cat's mobility and is as easy as feeding the right nutrition. Hill's® Prescription Diet® j/d® helps your cat walk, run and jump more easily in just 21 days. Hill's® Prescription Diet® j/d® Feline is a complete and balanced food that provides all the nutrition your cats needs.

MEDICATIONS:



Gabapentin is a pain medication that can be an important part in managing chronic pain.

Treatments:



Veterinary Medical Acupuncture is another good option for our pets to help with a wide array of conditions including arthritis and chronic pain. Treatment available here at Northgate Animal Hospital. See handout



Veterinary Medical Massage has several positive effects for our canine and feline companions . Gentle, careful, scientific and evidence-informed massage can work wonders for those patients who accept touch and need help recovering from surgery, trauma or a variety of medical conditions. Treatment available here at Northgate Animal Hospital.



Nail trims are very important to managing chronic pain and arthritis. Keeping nails trimmed and short as possible allows cats better traction and comfort.

Support:



Low wattage warm to approximately 102°F, the average body temperature of most cats making them extremely inviting. Offering a heated space can be very important to their comfort and well-being, especially in senior and arthritic cats.