

Joint Supplements for Your Pet

House Paws Home Veterinary Care carries several different brands of veterinarianapproved glucosamine supplements for your pet. Human products are available at a local drug store, but these are not as controlled as pet products and offer no guarantee of quality or content.

Glucosamine and chondroitin sulfate supplements are suggested for pets that are prone to arthritis. Arthritis risks are typically related to age, breed and prior injury or surgery. These products are intended to slow arthritis progression, and they will not stop or reverse the process.

The correct way to begin supplementation with glucosamine and chondroitin sulfate is to give your pet a "loading dose" for six weeks. A loading dose is twice what your pet would need at a maintenance level. The table in this document identifies both loading and maintenance doses for your pet based on weight. Our veterinarian will be able to make specific adjustments to dosing if needed.

There are several joint supplement products that House Paws recommends. Glyco-Flex III comes in bite-size chews and is most popular with both dogs and cats. Cosequin and Dasequin are also recommended, and we keep these in stock as well.

If you would prefer to try a human product, look for one that contains 500 mg of glucosamine and 400 mg of chondroitin sulfate. After six weeks, you should switch from the loading dose to a maintenance dose.

The following table outlines dosage for any product containing 500 mg of glucosamine and 400 mg of chondroitin sulfate:

Weight of Your Pet	Loading Dose	Maintenance Dose
10-24 lb.	1 tablet daily	1/2 tablet daily
25-49 lb.	2 tablets daily	1 tablet daily
50-100 lb.	3 tablets daily	1 1/2 tablets daily
100+ lb.	4 tablets daily	2 tablets daily.

^{*}Cosequin contains 250 mg glucosamine and 200 mg chondroitin sulfate; the doses in the above table should be doubled if using Cosequin.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us!