

Arthritis



Arthritis

Did you know arthritis affects one in five adult dogs? Dogs do not have to be old to have arthritis. Arthritis can also affect cats too.

Just as with people, arthritis is the inflammation of a joint or joints. Winter months worsen the symptoms of arthritis.

Signs of arthritis

It is often hard to tell if your pet is in pain. Animals are often quite stoic – it is not in their nature to complain. Therefore, you should look for signs such as:

- reduced activity
- reluctance to walk or play
- stiffness
- difficulty getting up, difficulty in jumping or climbing stairs
- personality changes
- changes in sleep patterns.

Arthritis cannot be completely cured but treatment is available to effectively control arthritis.

Therapy

Some of the ways we can help manage arthritis in your pet include:

- weight control
- diet and nutraceuticals
- exercise modification
- environmental changes
- pain relief
- anti-arthritic drugs.

If you are concerned your pet may be in pain, make an appointment to see one of our vets for an arthritis check. If we feel your pet may be showing signs of arthritis we will discuss diagnosis and treatment options with you.