URSOLYX™ Soft Chews [for Dogs] (<30 lbs) - Chews/Chewable Tablets (Dogs)

Joint Supplements (Small Animal) - Chews/Chewable Tablets (Dogs)

General Description:

Arthritis is the progressive destruction of joint cartilage and can cause pain, lameness, and reduced mobility in our pets. Joint Supplements provide basic support for joints and are commonly used in dogs. They are adjunct treatments used to reduce the discomfort associated with arthritis and may help to slow down the progression of this degenerative joint disease. Joint Supplements are considered nutraceuticals or nutrients that provide a medical benefit. These products are given by mouth and are commonly available in the form of a chewable tablet or chew.

What is this product?

Joint Supplements usually contain one, two, three or more of the ingredients shown below:

Glucosamine and chondroitin are derived from shellfish, shark or cattle cartilage which may promote cartilage synthesis and have mild anti-inflammatory properties

Methylsulfonylmethane (MSM) provides a natural source of sulfur which is an essential mineral that has claimed benefits for supporting and maintaining healthy joints

Antioxidants are substances that can protect cells and reduce damage which may play role in assisting with arthritis management. Examples of antioxidants used in Joint Supplements include: bioflavonoids, grape seed extract, lipoic acid, selenium, vitamin C, vitamin E and zinc

Perna canaliculus, also known as the New Zealand green-lipped mussel, is a natural source of omega 3 fatty acids, glucosamine, and chondroitin which may play a role in reducing joint inflammation

Avocado/Soybean Unsaponifiables (ASU) an ingredient obtained from avocados and soybeans which provides cartilage protection and improves joint function

Creatine Monohydrate provides an energy source and may improve muscle strength

Manganese is a mineral that may play a role in joint fluid production and may have antioxidant properties

Omega 3 fatty acids such as eicosapentaenoic acid (EPA), docosahexaenoic acid (DHA), and linolenic acid have the ability to reduce inflammation and the joint destruction associated with arthritis

Turmeric is a common spice whose active ingredient, curcumin, has potential anti-inflammatory properties

Phycocyanin is an extract from blue-green algae and may provide joint support by reducing inflammation and providing a source of antioxidants

Boswellia serrata is a herb that may have mild anti-inflammatory properties

Superoxide Dismutase Bovine Source may have antioxidant and anti-inflammatory properties

Yucca Root Powder is derived from a plant and may have mild anti-inflammatory properties

Reasons for prescribing:

To improve joint function, assist with mobility, and relieve pain associated with arthritis

Recommended for the support of healthy joints

Commonly used in combination with other medications for the management of arthritis

Animal Precautions:

This product is labeled for use in dogs and should be administered only under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian

Use of this product in any other species should be in consultation with a veterinarian

Use of this prescribed product in animals with any of the following conditions should be limited to those who are under the supervision of a veterinarian:

Asthma-like conditions (human patients report increased asthma symptoms)

History of clotting disorders or pets currently taking anticoagulant medications

History of urinary tract stones, diabetes or other medical conditions causing an increase in blood glucose levels

Known hypersensitivity to shellfish

Safety has not been established in:

Breeding, pregnant or nursing animals

Joint Supplements are not a replacement for appropriate treatment when a joint infection is present or when surgery or joint immobilization is indicated

Animals with a known hypersensitivity or allergy to this or related products should not be given this medication

Directions:

Joint Supplements should be given according to your veterinarian's instructions. Read and follow the product label carefully.

Many of these products do not have immediate results; they require long term usage. It is recommended that this supplement be given for as long as your veterinarian directs.

With the guidance of your veterinarian, experimentation with the dose may be necessary to achieve the best results for your pet. Further dose adjustments may be made based upon an assessment of how your pet is responding clinically.

This supplement can take several days to have full effects within the body, but side effects can occur immediately. Visible improvements are not always evident with supplements.

It is ideal to give this supplement at the same time daily. Joint Supplements should be given either during or after a meal to avoid digestive upset.

Arthritic pets can benefit from weight control, proper exercise, and physical therapy.

Nutraceuticals are not regulated by the FDA. As such, they have not been required to go through the same rigorous testing for efficacy that drugs undergo. Many products on the market are high quality and are made by reputable companies. Consult with your veterinarian to choose the right product for your pet.

What if a dose is missed?

If a dose is missed, give it as soon as you can. If it is time already for the next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to the normal schedule. Do not give two doses at the same time.

What to tell/ask your veterinarian before giving this product?

Talk to your veterinarian about:

Common signs of osteoarthritis such as: limping or lameness, stiffness, decreased joint movement, decreased activity, reluctance to stand, climb stairs, jump or run or difficulty in performing these activities

The importance of weight control and exercise in the management of arthritis

What tests may need to be performed prior to and during treatment with this supplement

When your pet may need to be re-examined

What are the safety concerns when using this product in different species

What are the risks and benefits of using this supplement

Tell your veterinarian about:

If your pet has experienced side effects on other drugs/products

If your pet has experienced any other medical problems or allergies

If your pet has experienced digestive upset now or ever

All medicines and supplements that you are giving your pet or plan to give your pet, including those you can get without a prescription. Your veterinarian may want to check that all of your pet's medications can be given together.

If your pet is pregnant, nursing or if you plan to breed your pet in the near future

Storage and Warnings:

Joint Supplements should be stored in a childproof container in a cool, dry place at room temperature away from heat and direct sunlight.

Keep this and all medication out of reach of children and pets.

Call your physician immediately if you accidentally take this product.

Potential side effects:

These products are usually well tolerated and adverse reactions are uncommon at recommended doses

Clinically insignificant decrease in platelet function (blood clotting)

Stomach upset is possible, but usually mild and may include flatulence or soft bowel movements

High doses could enhance the effects of anticoagulants

Notify your veterinarian immediately if your pet experiences any adverse reactions to this product

This supplement should stop working within 24 hours, although effects may last longer in pets with liver or kidney disease

Can this product be given with other medications?

Commonly used in combination with NSAIDs

Joint Supplements should not be given with drugs that can influence platelet function or blood clotting (aspirin, heparin, and warfarin)

Drugs other than those listed may also interact with Joint Supplements

Do not give new food or medications without first talking to your veterinarian

If your pet experiences any unusual reactions when taking multiple medications, contact your veterinarian

What should I do if I know of or suspect there has been an overdose?

Contact your veterinarian immediately if your pet receives more than the recommended amount.

What else should I know?

Notify your veterinarian if your pet's condition does not improve or worsens despite this treatment.

As with all supplements, it should only be given to the pet for which it was recommended.

This is just a summary of information about Joint Supplements. If you have any questions or concerns about this product or for the condition it was recommended, please contact your veterinarian.