

Pain Management In Our Beloved Pets

In honor of Muzby, who saved many lives as a blood donor, was a faithful companion for 15 1/2 years, and suffered from severe arthritis after an injury at the age of 8.

Arthritis plagues our pets as much as it plagues us. It is important to keep it in mind, especially when dealing with any breed that is predisposed. Your veterinarian is a great resource and guide to helping to keep your pet pain free and comfortable for as long as possible.

When it comes to pain management in our pets, it can simply start with joint supplements to help keep the joints moving well, and you can start them at a younger age before problems arise. It is important to do your research when it comes to supplements because they are not all the same. There is no regulation on them and companies don't have to prove they work. Look for the companies who do the research and have the proof. There are different types of pain medications that you can get from your veterinarian. Do not use over-the-counter pain meds intended for human use, they can be life threatening to our beloved pets.

There are also options available such as Class IV laser therapy and water therapy to help with pain management. Laser therapy can help reduce pain and inflammation, restore range of motion, restore the strength in the tissues and improve the quality of life. Water therapy can help the pets get the exercise they need without the added stress on their joints. The warm water helps to relax their muscles and the resistance of the water helps strengthen.

Successful pain management is multimodal and keeps our pets active and enjoying life. Talk with your veterinarian to see what combination is best for your pet.

*Shari Camp, RVT
Greater Cincinnati Veterinary Specialists
and Emergency Services*