



canine arthritis
management

**ALL THOSE OTHER THERAPIES
WHAT, WHEN, WHY?**

ARTHRITIS MAY BE A HOUSEHOLD NAME, BUT IT'S NOT A SIMPLE DISEASE

Arthritis is a disease that starts off affecting the joints, but progresses to involve the whole body and mind. This is why stepping into the world of rehabilitation and complementary therapy can be very beneficial to your dog.

However, complementary therapies are not all hippy and harmless. The wrong choice of therapy, the right therapy at the wrong time, or a certain therapy in the wrong

hands can lead to no improvement, or even deterioration.

We want to help you understand what each therapy does, when to use it, how to choose a suitable therapist, and what to expect. You can then make sure your choice is having the desired effect, and if it isn't, other therapies can then be explored.

Exciting times!

Diagnosis is key when introducing any intervention. This sounds fairly obvious, but, before starting any new therapy, getting an up-to-date review by your vet is essential. It will ensure that the current stage of disease, pain and any concurrent conditions are identified, and will give you the opportunity to gain the required consent from your vet before any complementary therapy begins.

We also recommend regular veterinary visits alongside a course of therapy. This will enable you and your vet to keep track of any changes in the pain state and ability of your dog, whilst also keeping communication open between all parties treating your dog.



GOOD DAYS AND BAD DAYS

During your vet consultation, it's helpful if you bring notes and/or a diary of your dog's day-to-day abilities and difficulties. The vet only sees your dog for a short time, so they generally do not see your dog's true pain state or physical capabilities. We have created a dedicated **Good Day, Bad Day diary** which is available on our website to make it easy for you to document your dog's behaviour on a daily



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