



Questionnaire: Is Arthritis Slowing Your Dog Down?

If dogs could talk, they'd say things like, "Treat, please," "Ball!" and "Rub my belly." Some dogs may add "Ouch" to their vocabulary. Why? Because according to estimates, nearly 40% of dogs suffer from painful joints caused by canine osteoarthritis, also known as arthritis. Since dogs can't say they're hurting, they've found other ways to get the message across. Learn to speak your dog's language to better understand his/her potential risk for painful arthritis by answering these questions from the veterinarians at American Regent Animal Health, maker of Adequan[®] Canine (polysulfated glycosaminoglycan), and be sure to discuss your dog's mobility at every veterinary visit.

1. What is canine arthritis?

This first answer is a freebie: Canine arthritis is a painful disease that develops when joint cartilage, or other joint tissues and fluids break down. As arthritis gets worse over time, it can cause bone-onbone contact in the joint and an uncomfortable life for your dog.

2. How easily does your dog jump onto the couch or into a car?

Jumps with no problem — **Lower arthritis risk** Hesitates before jumping — **Mid-level risk** Sometimes needs help jumping up — **Higher risk**

Translation: Jumping stresses joints, so dogs with arthritis need to gear up before taking a leap. Dogs with advanced arthritis may not be able to jump at all.

3. How would you describe your dog's energy level on walks?

Excited and enthusiastic – Lower arthritis risk

Less interested in walking - Mid-level risk

Low energy with lots of breaks - Higher risk

Translation: Dogs with arthritis may lag or stop walking altogether because of sore joints. However, daily walking can be important to help joints stay loose and feel better, so it is important to work with your veterinarian to find the best exercise program for dogs with arthritis.

4. How would you describe your dog's mood over the past few months?

Unchanged - as happy as ever — **Lower arthritis risk** A little more anxious or irritable — **Mid-level risk** Much more anxious and irritable — **Higher risk**

Translation: The pain of arthritis makes moving through daily life uncomfortable, which may dampen a dog's mood. That's why slowing the arthritis disease process helps keep dogs happy.

5. How would you rate your dog's body condition?

An hourglass shape with slightly visible ribs — Lower arthritis risk

A slight hourglass shape with no visible ribs – **Mid-level risk**

A tube shape with no visible ribs — **Higher risk**

Translation: Dogs with excess weight are more likely to develop arthritis. Once a dog has arthritis, extra weight stresses already sore joints.

6. How old is your dog?

Up to 2 years old — **At risk for early arthritis**

3 to 6 years old — At risk for mid-stage arthritis

7 years old or older – At risk for advanced arthritis

Translation: While arthritis in people often comes with age, many cases of canine arthritis begin when dogs are just 4 to 6 months old.

7. What size is your dog?

Small, such as a Shih Tzu or Pug — **Lower arthritis risk** Medium size, such as a Beagle or Basset Hound — **Mid-level risk** Large or giant, such as a Golden retriever, Labrador retriever, German Shepherd or Great Dane — **Higher risk Translation:** Bigger dogs are more likely to develop arthritis, but arthritis can affect a

Translation: Bigger dogs are more likely to develop arthritis, but arthritis can affect any size or breed of dog.

8. What can be done to help dogs with arthritis?

Here's a good-news answer: Canine arthritis is a manageable disease. With the right lifestyle and treatments, dogs with arthritis can run, jump, and live active lives for years to come. This is especially true if you and your veterinarian catch arthritis early, while there's still a chance to slow its effects. No matter your answers to these questions, talk with your dog's veterinarian about arthritis. You can work together to translate your dog's signals, identify joint pain and create a custom plan for managing arthritis. If diagnosed, ask your veterinarian if Adequan® Canine (polysulfated glycosaminoglycan) is right for your dog. Learn more at adequancanine.com. And remember, even though your dog can't talk, he's telling you plenty, including,

"Thank you for taking good care of me."



Adequan[®] Canine polysulfated glycosaminoglycan (PSGAG)

Indications and Usage

Adequan Canine is recommended for intramuscular injection for the control of signs associated with non-infectious degenerative and/or traumatic arthritis of canine synovial joints.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

Adequan Canine should not be used in dogs who are hypersensitive to polysulfated glycosaminoglycan (PSGAG) or who have a known or suspected bleeding disorder. It should be used with caution in dogs with renal or hepatic impairment. Adverse reactions in clinical studies (transient pain at injection site, transient diarrhea, and abnormal bleeding) were mild and self-limiting. In post approval experience, death has been reported in some cases; vomiting, anorexia, depression/lethargy and diarrhea have also been reported. The safe use of PSGAG in breeding, pregnant or lactating dogs has not been evaluated. **Caution:** Federal law restricts this drug to use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian. For additional safety information, please see full prescribing information at <u>adequancanine.com</u>.