

Supporting Comfort and Mobility

In Pets With Joint Degeneration



Arthrex®
Vet Systems

Does your pet suffer from joint pain?

Joint health plays an important role in your pet's comfort, mobility, and overall quality of life. Normal wear and tear, injury, or age-related changes can affect how a joint functions and how comfortably your pet moves.

Veterinarians may use biologic treatment options, such as platelet-rich plasma (PRP), to help support the body's natural healing response and manage joint-related conditions.

Cartilage wear

An anatomical illustration of a joint, likely a knee, showing the femur (thigh bone) at the top and the tibia (shin bone) at the bottom. The joint space between them is filled with articular cartilage. Several areas of this cartilage are highlighted in a reddish-orange color, indicating wear or damage. A line points from the text 'Cartilage wear' to one of these damaged areas. The background features faint, concentric red circles.

Understanding Joint Degeneration

Healthy joints rely on smooth cartilage and joint fluid for comfortable movement. Wear to the cartilage or changes in joint fluid can affect how well a joint functions.

Joint degeneration can lead to:

- › Stiffness or reduced mobility
- › Discomfort during activity or rest
- › Difficulty rising, walking, or playing

These changes often progress gradually and may affect one or multiple joints.

Why Joint Changes Occur

Joint degeneration can develop for many reasons, including:

- › Natural aging
- › Ongoing wear and tear from daily activities
- › Previous injury or joint surgery
- › Abnormal weight distribution or alignment within the joint
- › Changes in cartilage or joint fluid

Your veterinarian can help identify the factors contributing to your pet's comfort and mobility challenges and recommend appropriate next steps.

Signs You May Notice at Home

Pets can't tell us when their joints hurt, so recognizing early signs of joint changes is important. Common signs may include:

- › Stiffness, especially after rest
- › Slower movement or reluctance to run or jump
- › Changes in gait or posture
- › Decreased activity or enthusiasm for play

If you notice any of these changes, a veterinary evaluation can help determine the cause and guide appropriate next steps.

How PRP Is Prepared

The PRP process is performed by your veterinarian and typically includes the following steps:



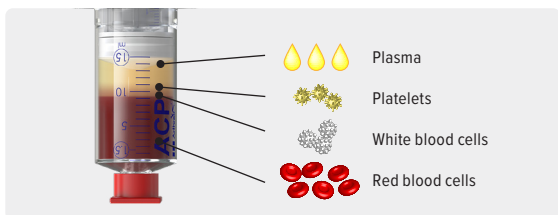
1

A sample of your pet's blood is drawn using a specially designed system.



2

The device is then placed into a centrifuge, where it is spun at high speed. This spinning separates the blood into layers: the heavier red and white blood cells settle at the bottom, while the lighter platelets and plasma rise to the top.



3

The platelet- and plasma-rich layer at the top is carefully extracted and used by your veterinarian for treatment.

What Is Platelet-Rich Plasma?

Platelet-rich plasma (PRP) is a concentrated mixture of platelets and plasma that is separated from the other components of blood. It is used as a treatment to support and speed up the body's natural healing process without the use of medication.

How PRP May Support Joint Health

When used by veterinarians, PRP is intended to:

- › Maximize the body's natural response to joint stress or injury
- › Encourage a healthy healing environment within the joint
- › Assist in managing joint-related discomfort

PRP works with your pet's own biology and may be used alongside other treatments, depending on your veterinarian's recommendation.

Is PRP Right for My Pet?

Arthrex Vet Systems offers different PRP options depending on your pet's weight and specific needs. Your veterinarian will examine your pet and determine which treatment approach is recommended. Pre- and postprocedure care, the timing of treatments, and the number of treatments needed will be determined by your veterinarian based on your pet's individual needs.

A Personalized Approach to Joint Care

Joint degeneration is a gradual process, and response to treatment can vary from pet to pet. PRP is one of several tools veterinarians may use to help support comfort and mobility as part of an individualized treatment approach.

If you have questions about PRP or your pet's joint health, your veterinarian is the best resource to guide you.

Important Information for Pet Owners

This material is provided for educational purposes only and is not a substitute for professional veterinary advice. Treatment decisions and outcomes depend on your pet's specific condition and the veterinarian's medical judgment. Not all pets will respond the same way to treatment.