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About Noltrex®Vet

Noltrex®Vet is a synthetic joint lubricant with physical properties similar to healthy synovial fluid. Noltrex®Vet mitigates a root cause of sore joints by mechanically reducing friction, improving boundary lubrication, and providing physical protection to articular cartilage. Unlike other viscosupplements, Noltrex®Vet has been shown to adhere to damaged articular cartilage surfaces¹, producing a fine and lubricating film.

How do Noltrex®Vet and hyaluronic acid compare?

Noltrex®Vet and hyaluronic acid both work to reduce friction in the joint. However, Noltrex®Vet remains in the joint much longer, thus providing the benefit of reduced friction for a long period of time. In addition, Noltrex®Vet has been found to aggregate on both damaged and healthy cartilage, thus providing lubrication where it counts, on the cartilage surface.

Is there an advantage to combining Noltrex®Vet with other intra-articular therapies?

Other intra-articular injections (steroids or orthobiologics) address inflammation at some level. Only Noltrex®Vet provides an important lubricating layer at the cartilage surface. Noltrex®Vet is therefore an excellent complement to these other therapies in long-term joint health management.

What joints should I consider injecting with Noltrex®Vet?

The short answer is any joint. Initially, Noltrex®Vet was recommended for high motion joints. Common examples would include coffin joints, fetlocks and stifles. However, other joints considered low motion joints (limited movement, but important) have also shown great improvement from Noltrex®Vet therapy. The most common example of a low motion joint would be lower hock joints.

How long does it take to see improvements with Noltrex®Vet?

Response to treatment with Noltrex®Vet will vary between horses. Some horses show improvement within days after injection, while others may take up to 30 days. Generally, gradual improvement is seen over a 1-3 week period. If a horse makes improvement from a single injection, but is not 100%, then a second injection after 5-6 weeks should be considered.

Are there any conditions that affect product choices?

The short answer is yes. Remember to understand your whole horse, not just the joint condition. Horses with Cushing's like syndrome, stomach ulcers (EGUS) or prior laminitis events are all sensitive to certain other products that could be used in joint treatment. Noltrex®Vet is a safe, effective substitute in these horses.





Can Noltrex®Vet keep my horse more reliably sound between injections?

Long-term joint management requires planning and often a combination of therapies. Yes, long duration therapy combinations often lead to less joint injections and more reliable responses to therapy over time.

How long does Noltrex®Vet last in the joint?

Over time, Noltrex®Vet is broken down into smaller pieces due to normal friction within the joint. Once the particles are of small enough size, they are removed from the joint by a naturally occurring absorption and removal process at about 30-60 days post-injection. This function ensures no residual Noltrex®Vet (polyacrylamide) particles remain in the joint and future injections can be administered without the risk of accumulation. In comparison, hyaluronic acid concentration decreases within hours after injection.

Can Noltrex®Vet be used in dogs?

Absolutely! The only difference is it's an extra-label use of the product, so it requires a conversation between the veterinarian and the owner. Many products veterinarians use are extra-label, so this is not an unusual practice.

Is Noltrex®Vet Safe?

There have been over one million injections of the human product Noltrex® worldwide. And more than 60,000 doses of Noltrex®Vet have been used in horses in North America. The number of adverse events reported are equal to or less than adverse events from other conventional intra-articular therapies.

How do I order Noltrex®Vet?

Noltrex®Vet is sold only to licensed veterinarians in the United States and Canada and must be purchased directly from Nucleus ProVets.



Scan the QR code for a full list of FAQs.

1. Vishwanath K, McClure SR, Bonassar LJ. Polyacrylamide hydrogel lubricates cartilage after biochemical degradation and mechanical injury. Journal of Orthopaedic Research. 2023;41(1):63-71. doi:10.1002/jor.25340

