



To Add to Your Knowledge of and Pleasure in Your Pets' Good Health  
Eric Griesshaber, D.V.M. Donald K. Jones, D.V.M. Genie Griesshaber, D.V.M.

## Dasuquin® to the Rescue!

As we get older, we feel the wear and tear of time on our bodies. We might experience shoulder, knee, or back joint pain. As our pets age, they too can experience similar joint pain. While dogs have benefited from the availability of a variety of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) directed at reducing inflammation and pain in joints, most of these anti-inflammatory drugs are not safe for use in cats. Furthermore, while the latest generation of NSAIDs are safe and effective, veterinarians and pet owners still need to look out for intestinal upset and monitor liver and kidney function by running routine blood profiles.

The good news for dogs and cats is that Dasuquin® offers a very safe and effective way to keep the joint cartilage healthy thereby increasing joint comfort. Dasuquin® is brought to us by Nutramax Laboratories, the makers of Cosequin®. Cosequin® DS for Dogs is the only joint health supplement brand shown to be effective, safe, and bioavailable in published, peer-reviewed, controlled U. S. studies. Cosequin® contains glucosamine and chondroitin sulfate and is manufactured with similar standards as prescription drugs. Cosequin®, however, can be purchased over the counter.

Dasuquin® contains the same glucosamine and chondroitin as Cosequin® but in addition, it contains avocado/soybean unsaponifiables (ASU) and bioavailable decaffeinated green tea polyphenols. Clinical trials have shown that ASU is more potent than chondroitin sulfate at reducing mediators of cartilage breakdown. The green tea polyphenols are rich in antioxidants which have a positive effect on cartilage health. We at Acadia Veterinary Clinic are excited about Cosequin's® and Dasuquin's® well constructed and published studies that support its efficacy. This is the main reason they are considered the number one choice in over-the-counter joint support supplements among veterinarians. Nutramax Laboratories, through the same type of controlled, scientific studies also moved another "holistic" antioxidant medication, Denosyl®, several years ago into the mainstream for support in patients with acute and chronic liver disease.

Have you noticed your dog or cat stiff to rise after naps or limping with or without exertion? If so, we highly recommend you add Dasuquin® into your pet's nutritional regimen. For pets with poor cartilage health, Dasuquin® has been shown to help! If you would like more information or would like to review the studies mentioned above, please visit: [www.nutramaxanimalhealth.com](http://www.nutramaxanimalhealth.com)

Dasuquin®, Cosequin®, and Denosyl® are registered trademarks of Nutramax Laboratories.

## Success Stories

**N**athan Cook, an 11 year old mix breed dog, presented to Acadia for evaluation of a new lump on the left side of his chest. The lump had been growing rapidly and was found about 1 week prior by Nathan's owner. Dr. Eric Griesshaber collected a needle aspirate sample. Unfortunately, the cytology report stated the mass was likely cancerous. Nathan came back into Acadia on the next day, Saturday, to see Dr. Genie Griesshaber. A complete blood panel was run and three radiographic (x-ray) views of the chest were taken in preparation for surgery. The blood work showed Nathan's organs appeared to be in great shape. The radiographs revealed no spread of cancer into the lungs (metastasis). Five days later, Nathan underwent surgery at Acadia to have the mass removed. Dr. Andy Staatz, a



board certified veterinary surgeon, was called in to remove the mass. During the extensive surgery, it was determined that a portion of three of Nathan's ribs needed to be removed along with the mass in order to get good "margins".

Nathan recovered well from surgery and eventually returned to normal activity which includes playing with Billy, his Pembroke Welsh Corgi, adopted "brother". Although Nathan was doing very well post surgery, the biopsy report came back with some bad news. The mass had been completely removed by the surgeon but it was a Grade III Mast Cell Tumor, the most aggressive type. Nathan's next visit was with Dr. Mike Kiselow, a veterinary oncologist, at Veterinary Medical Specialists. He performed an ultrasound scan of the abdomen and a bone marrow aspirate which further supported that the cancer had not spread internally. The behavior of Grade III Mast Cell Tumors is very concerning. To help prevent eventual spread or recurrence of the cancer, chemotherapy was initiated at the beginning of April of this year. Nathan has continued to do well through his chemotherapy treatment. We wish him a long, happy, and healthy life with his family!

**P**rince, a 1 year old male neutered feral cat, presented to Acadia for evaluation of suspected raccoon bite wounds and weight loss. Prince had numerous severely traumatized and infected wounds and needed to be anesthetized in order to fully evaluate Prince and formulate a treatment plan. While anesthetized, Prince's wounds were thoroughly examined. A large amount of infected tissue was removed from his "belly" wound. Once all of the infected tissue was removed and the area flushed thoroughly, the wound was stitched together. The other large wounds were on his legs and one penetrated down to the bone. Because of the size of the wounds and lack of loose, healthy skin, these wounds were left open to heal through a process known as granulation. Granulation tissue formation is a process in which healthy scar tissue arises at the periphery of the wound where blood supply is still present and is "laid down" from the outside of the wound toward the center.

Prince was a good, feral cat, but still too feral for daily bandage changes and too difficult to be treated at home by his caretaker. We decided to keep Prince at Acadia where we could keep his wounds clean and give him his medications as needed. We were worried that the deep wounds may have damaged tendons and that he may not be able to fully use his right rear leg after it was healed. Fortunately for Prince, he healed completely and has full function of all of his legs. It was a slow healing process and steadily over 5 ½ weeks, with lots of TLC, Prince became more affectionate and manageable. With healed wounds, Prince returned home and now enjoys indoor life.

# The Acadia Team

STAFF NEWS

If you have been in this summer, you have probably met Lydia Milczak. She is a sophomore at UC Santa Cruz and she is home for the summer. Last year, Lydia did such a great job volunteering, that we invited her back with a paid position for the summer. In addition to helping with treatments, taking radiographs (x-rays), and running blood tests, Lydia has been meeting many of you while taking histories in the exam room before the doctors step in. Say hello to Lydia the next time you stop by. We hope to continue seeing her on Saturdays during the school year and for a few summers to come before she reaches her goal of attending the School of Veterinary Medicine at UC Davis after completing her undergraduate studies.

Dr. Eric Griesshaber is now starting his third season of coaching under-6 coed soccer. Last season was

a tremendous success not only because the talented 4 and 5 year olds under his guidance won the tournament championship, but because they had fun and their love for the sport grew. The players learned team work, how to handle situations that didn't go their way, and they also built up confidence and self esteem. Dr. Griesshaber has had fun working with the community's children, and wishes to thank the clients of Acadia Veterinary Clinic for understanding on the days he needs to leave work early for practice.

Don't forget to say hello to the rest of our team when you stop by. Technicians: Charles, Kim and Mike. Receptionists: Holly and Joanna. Doctors: Donald Jones, Genie Griesshaber and Eric Griesshaber. Hospital Mascot: Andre!

## Warm Weather Tips

Here are some tips to help make warmer days enjoyable for us and for our four legged friends.

**Heatstroke:** Older, very young, overweight and short-snouted (brachycephalic) dogs should avoid the heat. Symptoms of heatstroke include heavy panting, low energy, inability to rise, a "glazed" expression, and cats may become anxious. If you suspect heat stroke, take your pet to a veterinarian ASAP.

- Never leave an animal in a vehicle during warm or hot weather
- Provide plenty of fresh water
- Outdoor pets always need access to shade
- Limit exercise to the cooler times of the day

**Swimming Pools:** Not all dogs know how to swim. It is important to teach dogs that are good swimmers how to get out of the swimming pool and any dog swimming needs to be supervised. For puppies and very old pets, swimming pools are especially dangerous.

**Foxtails:** These are barbed seeds of grasses that are very common in California. Because of their arrow head shape they work their way into the skin, nose, eyes, ears, and between the toes of dogs and cats. Foxtails can migrate inside the body causing inflammation and infection as they go.

If your dog or cat:

- paws at its eyes or ears
- holds one ear lower with a head tilt
- rubs the eyes or head
- licks or bites at parts of its body
- repeatedly sneezes violently
- has a discharge from the nose or a draining wound anywhere on the body but especially between the toes, then take your pet to your veterinarian as soon as possible. To keep your pet safe, remove dried weeds from your yard or keep your pet out of the yard altogether!

Acadia



Veterinary  
Clinic

10012 N. Foothill Blvd.  
Cupertino, CA 95014

408.996.1030

Mon - Fri

8am - 6pm

Sat

9am - 2pm

[www.AcadiaVet.com](http://www.AcadiaVet.com)

Presorted  
First Class Mail  
US Postage  
**PAID**  
Oakland, CA  
Permit #2319

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



15% 15%

Acadia Veterinary Clinic  
**Dental Coupon**  
**15% off**  
**Total Invoice**

(Which Includes Dental Treatment)

Discount cannot be combined  
with any other offers.  
Must present coupon at the time  
services are rendered.

15%

wsc

Expires 1/1/2010

15%



Acadia's Annual Halloween Costume Contest!  
Participants are encouraged to enter between  
October 11<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>

Acadia Veterinary Clinic

**Care Enough to Share!**

Existing Clients Give this coupon to a friend  
and they will receive the

**First Office Visit Free**

for their pet!

wsc