

Veterinary use of USANA products

The veterinary profession is increasingly aware of the valuable role that nutritional supplements such as anti-oxidants, glucosamine, omega fatty acids and others can play in the general health and well-being of our patients, often filling the gap where conventional medicine has limitations.

As a vet in mixed practice, I frequently make use of USANA nutritional products for my patients (and myself!) to help their bodies to function optimally. With any disease condition, whether it be degenerative, neoplastic, autoimmune, inflammatory or infectious, my patients need any edge that they can get to give their bodies the best possible chance of responding to treatment.

I have learned that all supplements are not created equal and trust USANA nutritionals implicitly, given their solid foundation of research as well as sound manufacturing practices, which make them one of the few pharmaceutical grade nutritional supplements in the world.

Some of the areas where I make specific use of these products and have excellent feedback from clients (and patients) include :

- * Skin complaints, especially the frustrating “itchy dog” and “scabby cat”. Omega 3 fatty acids (Biomega and Optomega) help to increase the itch threshold and improve the quality of the coat and skin, making the management of these conditions a lot easier.
- * Arthritis. Here again omega 3 fatty acids play a role but Procosamine (mainly glucosamine) makes an incredible difference, cutting down on my patient’s needs for NSAIDS dramatically. What I find to be especially useful is that my patients typically show a marked improvement within a couple of days whereas with most other glucosamine supplements it takes about 3 weeks for them to show a response.
- * Viral Diseases. Using the Mega-antioxidant sometimes together with Proflavonol (Grapeseed extract - a very potent anti-oxidant) and ideally the omega fatty acids, the body is well-supported improving recovery and again filling the gap where conventional medicine has little to offer.

For most of the products I extrapolate a dose from the recommended human dose based on a 60kg human and then round it off upwards to compensate for the accelerated metabolic rate in smaller animals. In large animals such as horses, I extrapolate the dose based on a 100kg human - this can be a lot to give but even a small amount will help the body.

In cases of severe and acute disease, such as laminitis and feline viral respiratory infections, high doses given frequently can help to make a clinically significant improvement.

When used as a supportive therapy on an ongoing basis or for chronic disease I recommend that my patients receive divided doses through the day (keeping the body’s cells in regular supply) but in the case of some cats, where tableting is a problem, once a day dosing will do - best for the health of the owner and cat!

Yours sincerely,

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