ActivPower CANIS

CANINE KNOWLEDGE BASE • INGREDIENT SCIENCE

High Molecular Weight Hyaluronic Acid for Canine Joint Wellness

A naturally occurring joint-lubricating molecule (≈1 million Daltons) studied to support mobility and connective-tissue hydration in dogs.

ActivPower ATLAS® for Dogs | ≈1 Million Daltons | Synovial Support

What Is High Molecular Weight Hyaluronic Acid?

Hyaluronic acid (HA) is a naturally occurring substance found throughout the body — particularly in joints, connective tissues, and skin — where it helps tissues retain water, maintain elasticity, and support normal function. **High Molecular Weight Hyaluronic Acid (HMW-HA)**, typically defined as HA of roughly one million Daltons or greater, has attracted scientific interest for its unique biological properties. It is included in **ActivPower ATLAS® for dogs** to support mobility, joint wellness, and quality of life.

Why Molecular Weight Matters

HA exists in a range of molecular sizes, and research suggests molecular weight may influence biological behavior. HMW-HA is naturally abundant in healthy tissues and is associated with joint lubrication, tissue hydration, connective-tissue integrity, and support of normal inflammatory balance. Higher molecular weight forms may interact differently with tissues than fragmented or low molecular weight forms, particularly in relation to tissue homeostasis (Litwiniuk et al., 2016).

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Evidence in Dogs

Hyaluronic acid is a major component of synovial fluid — the fluid that lubricates joints and facilitates smooth movement — and its quality may decline with aging and joint degeneration. Oral HA has been studied directly in dogs.

Serra Aguado et al. (2021). A canine study evaluated oral hyaluronic acid administration in dogs following tibial tuberosity advancement surgery for cranial cruciate ligament injury, examining recovery-related outcomes.

Postmarketing study (2025). An exploratory study of systemic hyaluronic acid therapy in dogs with osteoarthritis reported clinical improvements linked to changes in joint biomarkers.

Barbeau-Grégoire et al. (2022). A systematic review and meta-analysis of enriched diets and nutraceuticals in canine and feline osteoarthritis evaluated hyaluronic acid among other joint-support ingredients.

Researchers propose that supplemental HA may support joint wellness by helping maintain normal lubrication and healthy connective-tissue function. Research is ongoing.

Joint Lubrication & Mobility

HA-related canine research centers on support for measures relevant to a dog's daily movement:

- Joint comfort and lubrication
- Mobility and physical function
- Everyday activities and active play
- Connective-tissue hydration and resilience

Tissue Hydration & Healthy Aging

HA participates in the body's natural tissue-repair processes and helps maintain hydration within the extracellular matrix. These functions may contribute to mobility and quality of life as dogs age, though there is no evidence that oral HA extends lifespan.

Safety Profile

Published research generally reports oral hyaluronic acid supplementation to be well tolerated, with uncommon and typically mild side effects. Pet owners managing veterinary conditions should consult their veterinarian before introducing new supplements.

The ActivPower Perspective

ActivPower includes High Molecular Weight Hyaluronic Acid in ATLAS® for dogs as part of a comprehensive nutritional strategy supporting mobility, physical function, and quality of life — one component of a broader wellness program.

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FEATURED IN

ActivPower ATLAS® for Dogs

Selected References — Canine Literature

1. Serra Aguado CI, Ramos-Plá JJ, Soler C, Segarra S, Moratalla V, Redondo JI. Effects of oral hyaluronic acid administration in dogs following tibial tuberosity advancement surgery for cranial cruciate ligament injury. *Animals (Basel).* 2021;11(5):1264.

2. Novel insights into systemic hyaluronic acid therapy in dogs with osteoarthritis from an exploratory postmarketing study: clinical improvements linked to biomarker changes. *Animals (Basel).* 2025;15(21):3140.

3. Barbeau-Grégoire M, Otis C, Cournoyer A, et al. A 2022 systematic review and meta-analysis of enriched therapeutic diets and nutraceuticals in canine and feline osteoarthritis. *Int J Mol Sci.* 2022;23(18):10384.

4. Litwiniuk M, Krejner A, Speyrer MS, Gauto AR, Grzela T. Hyaluronic acid in inflammation and tissue regeneration. *Wounds.* 2016;28(3):78–88.

DISCLAIMER

This article is provided solely for educational and informational purposes and summarizes selected scientific literature concerning High Molecular Weight Hyaluronic Acid as a nutritional ingredient in dogs. Nothing herein is intended to diagnose, treat, cure, mitigate, or prevent any disease, injury, arthritis, inflammatory disorder, or medical condition in animals.

Statements regarding dietary supplements have not been evaluated by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Individual responses may vary. Pet owners should consult a qualified veterinarian before introducing any new supplement or nutritional ingredient into an animal wellness program. No claim beyond the educational discussion of current scientific literature is stated or implied.

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