



My Horse is Lame... Now What?

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In the equine athlete, overuse is a significant cause of a variety of lameness problems. Over time, the wear and tear of daily use or “use trauma,” exerts abnormal forces on a horse’s joints and disrupts the natural cycle of “wear and repair.” Once the natural balance of a joint is disrupted, the joint is susceptible to non-infectious degenerative joint disease (DJD). Equine DJD (also commonly referred to as Osteoarthritis, or OA) is specifically defined as “a group of disorders characterized by a common end-stage in which progressive deterioration of the articular cartilage is accompanied by changes in bone and soft tissues of the joint.”¹

In horses with DJD, changes occur within the joint that cause lameness which may become noticeable by an owner, rider, trainer, or veterinarian. A comprehensive veterinary physical and lameness exam is always recommended for an appropriate diagnosis of any cause of lameness. If a diagnosis of DJD is confirmed, your veterinarian may choose to treat your horse with one or more of the four therapeutic categories of products discussed in this article. FDA approved products within these categories of treatment are routinely used in the management of lameness associated with degenerative joint disease or osteoarthritis. (Note: FDA approved products are those products that are rigorously tested for safety and efficacy through required clinical studies.)



Therapeutic Categories for DJD

Polysulfated glycosaminoglycan (PSGAG)

PSGAG is a naturally-occurring complex molecule that is an essential building block of the cartilage matrix. Adequan® (polysulfated glycosaminoglycan) is the **ONLY** FDA-approved equine PSGAG recommended for intramuscular treatment of non-infectious degenerative and/or traumatic joint dysfunction and associated lameness of the carpal and hock joints in horses. After intramuscular injection, Adequan® diffuses into the bloodstream, which transports the drug into joint synovial fluid, where it is absorbed by articular cartilage at therapeutic levels that inhibit cartilage degrading enzymes.

Sodium Hyaluronate products, or Hyaluronic Acid (HA)

These products restore the lubricating properties of the synovial fluid within the joint, have anti-inflammatory action, and are thought to stimulate enhanced natural production of HA. They may be administered IA or IV.

Corticosteroids

Corticosteroids are potent anti-inflammatory agents that rapidly decrease pain and inflammation when given IV, IM, or IA. They are beneficial in significantly reducing the initial inflammation that occurs with joint injury but should be used judiciously in certain cases.

Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs)

NSAIDs act rapidly and are easily administered for the short-term, potent

Adequan® i.m helps restore joint function in the carpal and hock joints²



Adequan® i.m. (polysulfated glycosaminoglycan)²

The **ONLY** FDA approved equine PSGAG for the intramuscular treatment of non-infectious degenerative joint disease of the carpal and hock joints proven to:

- **DIMINISH** the destructive processes of degenerative joint disease
- **REVERSE** the processes which result in the loss of cartilage components
- **IMPROVE** overall joint function and associated lameness

Available for order! For more information about equine joint health and treatment with Adequan® i.m., please visit www.adequan.com.

Dosing and Administration²

- Administer **1** intramuscular injection (500 mg)
- Every **4** days
- For **7** treatments
- **Consult with your veterinarian regarding any questions on dosing**



relief of pain and inflammation as occurs with joint injury, disease in multiple joints, as well as other systemic medical conditions. They may be administered orally, IV, IM, or topically. High doses, chronic use, or use in compromised animals may potentiate systemic side effects involving the blood, GI tract, kidney, or liver. NSAIDs should be used judiciously in certain cases.

Many other products marketed and sold are not supported by sound scientific

research or manufactured under strict FDA guidelines. Please consult your veterinarian for further information on treatment of lameness associated with DJD, and ask which FDA approved products may be most appropriate for your horse.

INDICATIONS

For the intramuscular treatment of non-infectious degenerative and/or traumatic joint dysfunction and associated lameness of the carpal and hock joints in horses.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

There are no known contraindications to the use of intramuscular Adequan® i.m. brand Polysulfated Glycosaminoglycan in horses. Studies have not been conducted to establish safety in breeding horses. **WARNING:** Do not use in horses intended for human consumption. Not for use in humans. Keep this and all medications out of the reach of children. **CAUTION:** Federal law restricts this drug to use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian.

Please see Full Prescribing Information at www.adequan.com.

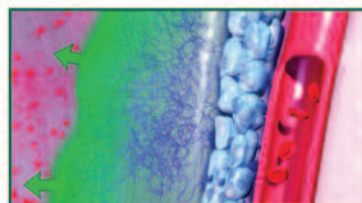
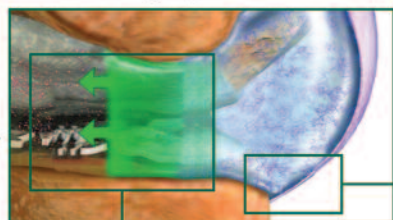
Reference:

1. McIlwraith CW. Traumatic Arthritis and Posttraumatic Osteoarthritis in the Horse. In: *Joint Disease in the Horse*. Frisbee DD, Kawcak CE, McIlwraith CW, van Weeren PR, ed. 2nd ed. St. Louis, MO: Elsevier, 2016:33.
2. Adequan® i.m. [package insert]. Shirley, NY: Luitpold Animal Health, division of Luitpold Pharmaceuticals, Inc., 2008.

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Adequan® i.m

Stimulates cartilage repair²



Restores synovial lubrication²



Reverses the disease processes which result in the net loss of cartilage components²