
Pain Management

Pain can come in many forms, whether it be from surgery, an injury, chronic pain such as arthritis pain, or any number of other sources. No matter where the pain comes from managing that pain is very important.

There are two different types of pain management, either short term or long term. In the case of short term pain management also known as acute pain management the pain that is being treated will more than likely go away once the reason behind the pain is resolved. Examples of short term pain management are post-surgical pain management or post injury pain management. Long term pain management also known as chronic pain management involves controlling pain associated with an ailment such as arthritis or cancer. Having appropriate pain management will allow your pet to recover from an acute pain source faster because your pet will be able to rest more comfortably which will allow them to put more of their energy into healing. When it comes to long term pain management the goal is to find the right drug or combination of drugs to keep the animal comfortable long term.

There are a wide variety of pain management drugs available for dogs. The first line of defense is normally a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) such as over the counter buffered aspirin or prescription NSAIDs such as Rimadyl®, Deramaxx®, or Metacam®. Other prescription pain medications such as tramadol can also be used to control pain or be added to other pain medications. There are also controlled narcotic pain medications that can also be used to help with pain such as morphine, butorphanol, or buprenex. Also there is a drug called gabapentin that inhibits the pain signals in the nerves from being processed.

Pain management in cats is a little harder because there are not as many options available. The only NSAID that is approved for use in cats is a prescription medication called Onsior® for post-surgical. There are controlled narcotic pain medications such as butorphanol and buprenex.

Dogs should never get Tylenol, Advil, Aleve, Ibuprofen, or any other over the counter NSAID aside from aspirin. Cats should never be given any other over the counter NSAID.

If you have any further questions about pain management please feel free to contact us at (920) 668-6212 or send us an email at info@cgvet.com. If you feel that you're pet may need pain management medications call and schedule an appointment to discuss your options.