

Holistic Therapies for Canine Hip Dysplasia

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Joan Hustace Walker

Although there are no known cures for hip dysplasia, complementary medicine offers several modalities that in many cases may prevent, slow, or halt crippling degeneration of the joint, as shown in the above case study. Also, many remedies are available to help treat a dog's symptoms by reducing swelling and minimizing pain. Many of the recommendations of holistic veterinarians such as diet, exercise, and hot or cold therapies can be performed at home by the pet owner. Other holistic modalities require the skilled hands and/or expertise of a trained complementary medical practitioner.

The following methods are those that holistic veterinarians say are producing the greatest results. Of these, the three most frequently prescribed treatments are acupuncture, chiropractic, and nutritional supplements. The following therapies should be given under the guidance of a licensed veterinarian.

Next step: Acupuncture and Acupressure

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