

The Natural Product Company Ltd (trading as NPC Health)

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Data sheet: Hydra-flex HA™ Active

Background:

To move freely bones have joints. The ends of these are coated in cartilage (*known as articular cartilage*).

This cartilage provides a cushion surface and prevents the contact of the two bones rubbing, the joint is then enclosed in a joint capsule containing an abundance of synovial fluid. The joint ends bath in this fluid which allows range of movement.

A Lack of joint lubricant results in poor cartilage health (*leading to bone spurs*) and DJD (*degenerative joint disease*).

Description: Hydra-flex HA™ Active uses ingredients that maintain this lubrication, control inflammation and aid in the maintenance of healthy cartilage.

General Characterisation:

Hydra-flex HA™ Active is a concentrated product, free of dextrose and fillers for maximum protection.

Scientifically Proven Benefits:

Glucosamine at a therapeutic level (10,000mg or more) is an integral part of cartilage, helping to rebuild, strengthen, maintain and protect cartilage. Research shows oral glucosamine is beneficial based on 10,000mg administered daily to horses (American Journal of Veterinary Research Medicine; 2008). Recent clinical studies (Journal of Animal Health Science 2016, 94:3294-3302) also prove oral administration to be beneficial to joint structures and in particular reducing inflammation within the joint capsule.

Note: We use a higher level of Glucosamine, which takes into account the Glucosamine fraction of Glucosamine Sulphate (66%). This is necessary to achieve the correct level of Glucosamine in the end formula.

Hyaluronic acid (HA) is a primary component of the synovial fluid providing a slip surface. This helps to reduce friction on cartilage surfaces. HA is also very “hygroscopic” binding many times its own weight in water thus keeping cartilage well hydrated and healthy. The molecular weight chosen is **high molecular** which shares the same attributes as native HA found in the synovial fluids. This has been shown in multiple studies to be best absorbed and therefore most benefit to joint structures (Journal of Applied Nutrition; volume 54, number 1, 2004). High molecular weight HA is therefore superior to low molecular weight alternatives and the only HA to have multiple joint benefits.

Vitamin C assists in the formation of collagen and strengthening of tissue and structures and is also a component required for healthy cartilage.

Green-lip mussel extract offers more protection to joints. Scientific studies show green-lip mussel extract to be highly effective as an ant-inflammatory and pain relief ingredient (research studies on people). However, not all Greenlip mussel extracts are alike!

We use a special extract, proven to retain the important anti-inflammatory components, often destroyed during processing with many other extracts.

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Inflammation is damaging as it releases enzymes which weaken tissue and cartilage. Green-lip mussel is also a natural source of *chondroitin, glucosamine and omega 3*. The extract form is highly concentrated.

Chondroitin Sulphate – Chondroitin sulphate is shown in multiple studies to support cartilage and aid in repair of cartilage. Long term use of glucosamine sulphate in combination with chondroitin sulphate is shown in clinical trials to improve joint function. A recent veterinary trial (published) also found that when glucosamine and chondroitin were used long term there was less need for injectable joint care when compared to horses in the placebo group.

Active Ingredients (per dose) per 500 Kg bodyweight: Per 30 g dose (equivalent to 1 scoop)

Contains: Glucosamine Sulphate 12,000mg, Chondroitin Sulphate 200mg, Vitamin C (as ascorbate) 200mg, Hyaluronic acid (sodium) 180mg, Green lip mussel (extract) 2000mg, Apple flavour

For horses with joint issues (such as degenerative joint conditions) we recommend a dose of 45-60 grams per 500 Kg bodyweight.

Active per 60 gram dose (equiv to 2 scoops)

Glucosamine Sulphate 24,000 mg, Chondroitin Sulphate 400 mg, Vitamin C 400mg, Hyaluronic acid 360 mg, Green lip mussel (extract) 4000 mg, Apple flavour

Product Properties:

Beige powder

Example of Use: Administer into horses feed daily as per label recommendations.

*Green lip mussel is of marine origin. It is recommended a ½ dose be used in order to get horse used to the taste (generally for 3-5 days) whilst making feed tasty, slowly build up to full dose.