

Summary

- Establish what is “**normal**” for your dog and then you will be able to know what is “**abnormal**” and therefore if there is something wrong.
- Take time out regularly to assess your dog and make sure that subtle changes in behaviour and physicality are not taking place without you noticing. Take notes on what your dog is capable of doing at the present time and then you can compare this in the future.
- If your dog shows any signs of **unexplained** pain then you should take them to your veterinarian. **DO NOT** try to self-medicate when the cause is unknown.
- If your dog is prescribed pain relief medication it is because it needs it, **DO NOT** stop the medication unless your dog displays side effects and or you are advised to do so by your vet.
- Don't be afraid of asking for pain relief for your dog if you think that they need it. Owners know their dogs and if you feel it is necessary then **ask for it**.
- **Do Not** exercise a dog that is in pain.
- **Weight Control** is essential in prevention and management of physical issues in the dog, leading to pain.

If you would like any more information on pain management in regards to a specific case then please do not hesitate to get in touch.

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