



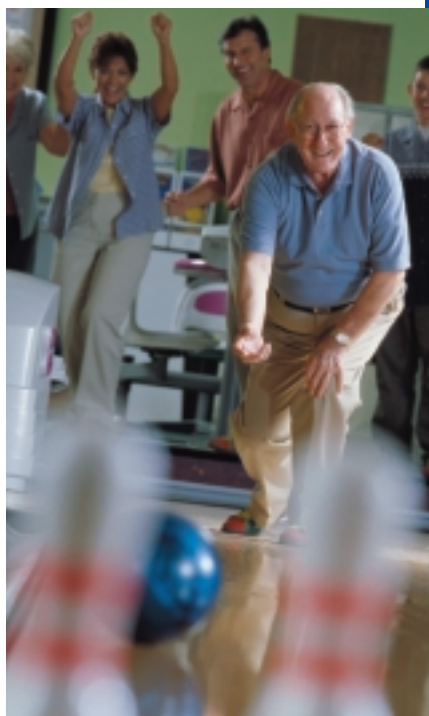
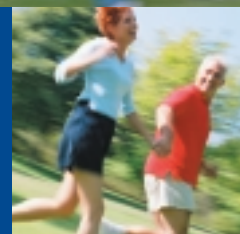
Come visit us at
WWW.HYALGAN.com

Patient's Name _____

Appointments

*Do you suffer from knee pain
due to osteoarthritis?*

*Find out about pain
relief that can help get
you back in
the action!*



sanofi-synthelabo

Sanofi-Synthelabo Inc. New York, NY 10016

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■ **What is osteoarthritis?**

Osteoarthritis is a disease that affects the areas where bones form hinges for movement, such as the knee. These areas are called joints.

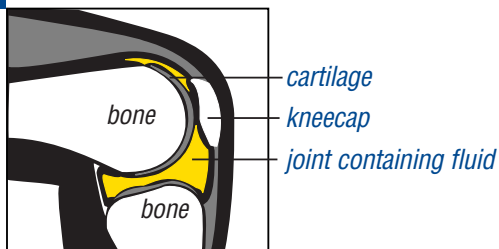
Osteoarthritis is the most common joint disease and affects nearly everyone by age 70. Factors that may play a role in the development of osteoarthritis include overuse of joints, job- or sports-related injuries, prior surgery, being overweight, poor bone positioning, and family history.

About 21 million people in the United States are affected by osteoarthritis.

■ **How can osteoarthritis cause knee pain?**

Osteoarthritis may cause changes in the knee joint, which may result in knee pain.

One change that may occur causes the fluid that normally protects the joint to lose its cushioning and lubricating abilities. Other changes may cause the cartilage, which normally covers and protects the ends of the knee bones, to lose its cushioning effect and wear away. These changes may result in pain, stiffness, limitation of joint motion, and some inflammation (for example, redness and swelling).



■ **What treatments are available for osteoarthritis of the knee?**

Osteoarthritis of the knee cannot be cured, but there are ways to manage the pain and stiffness that it can cause.

Non-drug treatments may include physical therapy, exercise, and weight loss.

Drug therapy may include acetaminophen (for example, Tylenol®); aspirin; nonprescription nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) such as ibuprofen (for example, Advil®, Motrin®) and naproxen (for example, Aleve®); prescription-strength NSAIDs, including the drugs rofecoxib (Vioxx®) and celecoxib (Celebrex®); or corticosteroid injections.

Some people with osteoarthritis of the knee may even require surgery.

Another alternative is to treat the pain of osteoarthritis of the knee with a substance called hyaluronan. Hyaluronan (pronounced hi-al-yur-ON-an) is a natural chemical found in the body and present in particularly high amounts in joints. When injected into the joint, hyaluronan acts like a lubricant and a shock absorber. Several different hyaluronan products are available for medical use.

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■ **What is HYALGAN?**

HYALGAN (pronounced HI-al-gan) is a natural hyaluronan that is used for patients who do not get adequate pain relief from simple painkillers and from exercise and physical therapy. It is a sterile, highly purified mixture that is chemically similar to the hyaluronan normally found in the knee joint.

■ **What does HYALGAN do?**

HYALGAN can provide relief of pain due to osteoarthritis of the knee. The length of pain relief may vary based on your individual response. Talk with your doctor about the benefits of HYALGAN.

■ **How is HYALGAN given?**

HYALGAN is given in your doctor's office and is injected directly into the knee. A treatment cycle consists of 5 injections given at weekly intervals. This course of treatment can provide pain relief for up to 26 weeks.

Some patients may experience benefit with 3 injections given at weekly intervals. This has been noted in studies reported in the literature in which patients treated with 3 injections were followed for 60 days.

■ **Is HYALGAN commonly used?**

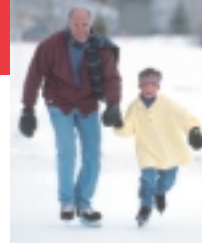
Yes. HYALGAN has been widely studied and has been in use for 15 years. It is available in 39 countries, and more than 10 million injections of HYALGAN have been given worldwide.

***Ask your doctor if HYALGAN
is right for you.***

Be sure to read the complete patient information about HYALGAN on pages 10 and 11.



HYALGAN®
sodium hyaluronate



■ ***Does the injection hurt?***

As with any injection, you may feel temporary minor pain at the injection site. To help make your HYALGAN injection as comfortable as possible, your doctor may inject a local anesthetic beforehand.

■ ***What are the common side effects associated with HYALGAN therapy?***

Again, as with any injection, you may experience some local pain and/or swelling. The most common side effects of HYALGAN therapy are injection-site pain, swelling, heat and/or redness, rash, itching, or bruising around the joint. Any such effects are generally mild and usually do not last long.

HYALGAN has been in clinical use for 15 years, and more than 10 million injections have been given. Reported cases of serious allergic reactions with HYALGAN have been very rare.

■ ***Are there any reasons why I should not take HYALGAN?***

You should not take this product if you have had any previous allergic reaction to HYALGAN or other medications containing hyaluronan. You should not have an injection into the knee if you have an infection or skin disease in the area of the injection site.

■ ***Can I continue taking my other medications if I receive HYALGAN?***

You should talk with your doctor about your specific medications; however, HYALGAN is not known to interact with drugs taken orally.

■ ***What if I need another course of therapy?***

Your doctor may decide to repeat your HYALGAN treatment. Repeat treatment was shown to be well tolerated in a 30-month study in which 75 patients received a 5-injection course of HYALGAN every 6 months.

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If you answer yes to any of these questions, you may be a candidate for HYALGAN therapy. Share this checklist with your health-care professional. Only he or she can determine whether HYALGAN is right for you.

1. Have you tried nonprescription pain medication such as acetaminophen (for example, Tylenol®) or ibuprofen (for example, Advil®) for your osteoarthritis of the knee and not experienced enough pain relief?

☐ Yes

☐ No

2. Are you unable to take or have you been told by your doctor to avoid aspirin or nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs), such as naproxen (for example, Aleve®) or ibuprofen, for your pain from osteoarthritis of the knee?

☐ Yes

☐ No

3. Are you taking prescription medication for pain due to osteoarthritis of the knee that does not provide you with enough relief?

☐ Yes

☐ No

4. Are you taking prescription medication for pain due to osteoarthritis of the knee that is causing side effects?

☐ Yes

☐ No

5. Are you taking multiple medications for conditions other than osteoarthritis?

☐ Yes

☐ No

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HYALGAN®
sodium hyaluronate

PATIENT INFORMATION
HYALGAN®
(Sodium Hyaluronate)

WHAT IS HYALGAN®?

Hyalgan® is a sterile mixture that is made up mostly of a natural, highly purified sodium hyaluronate that comes from rooster combs. Hyaluronate is a natural chemical found in the body and it is present in a particularly high amount in joint tissues and in the fluid that fills the joints. The body's own hyaluronate acts like a lubricant and a shock absorber in the joint, and it is needed for the joint to work properly. In osteoarthritis, there may not be enough hyaluronate, and there may be a change in the quality of the hyaluronate in joint fluid and tissues.

Hyalgan® is available in either 2 mL glass containers or 2 mL pre-filled syringes. Hyalgan® is given in a shot directly into your knee.

WHAT IS HYALGAN® USED FOR?

Hyalgan® is used to relieve knee pain due to osteoarthritis. It is used for patients who do not get adequate relief from simple painkillers or from exercise and physical therapy.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF HYALGAN®?

A study involving 495 patients with knee pain due to osteoarthritis was performed in the United States. This study investigated the safety and effectiveness of Hyalgan®. The patients were placed in one of three groups. One group was given an injection of Hyalgan® into one knee joint once a week for 5 weeks. The second group was given an injection of saltwater into one knee joint once a week for 5 weeks. The third group received two naproxen tablets every day for 6 months. Joint pain was measured in all patients throughout the 6 months. Patients with osteoarthritic knee joint pain, who did not get relief from simple painkillers or from exercise and physical therapy, got pain relief from the Hyalgan® injections into the knee joint. Pain relief was not seen in some patients until after the fifth injection.

WHAT OTHER TREATMENTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR OSTEOARTHRITIS?

If you have osteoarthritis, there are several things you can do that do not involve Hyalgan® injections. These include the following:

Non-drug treatments

- avoiding activities that cause excess pain in your joints
- exercise
- physical therapy

Drug therapy

- painkillers such as acetaminophen and narcotics
- drugs that reduce inflammation such as aspirin, and other nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory agents (NSAIDs) such as ibuprofen and naproxen
- corticosteroids that are injected directly into the joint

ARE THERE ANY REASONS WHY I SHOULD NOT TAKE HYALGAN®?

- You should not take this product if you have had any previous allergic reaction to Hyalgan® or similar material, i.e., hyaluronate products.
- You should not have an injection into the knee if you have infections or skin diseases around the injection site.

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT HYALGAN®

- Hyalgan® is only for injection into the knee, performed by a qualified physician.
- Consult your physician if you are allergic to products from birds such as feathers, eggs, and poultry.
- Immediately after you have the injection and for the next 48 hours, you may need to avoid activities such as jogging, tennis, heavy lifting, or standing on your feet for a long time.
- Although results of studies in rats and rabbits with Hyalgan® did not suggest that it could affect your ability to have children or cause harm to your child if you are pregnant or nursing, Hyalgan® has not been tested in pregnant women, or women who are nursing. You should tell your doctor if you think you are pregnant, or if you are nursing a child.
- The safety and effectiveness of Hyalgan® have not been shown in children.

POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS

- Hyalgan® has been used in a number of countries in Europe, South America, and Asia since 1987. During this time, two cases of serious, allergic-type events were reported right after the patients received the injection. For example, one patient experienced sweating, paleness, and a feeling of pressure in the chest and stomach. The patient's skin turned slightly blue, and blood pressure dropped. You should tell your doctor before you are given Hyalgan® if something like this has ever happened to you after receiving an injection of Hyalgan® or a similar material, i.e., hyaluronate products.
- Six cases of allergic reactions were reported in people outside of the United States after they had been given Hyalgan®. These people reported that their pulse became quicker, they had a heavy feeling, there were changes in their blood pressure and circulation, and they shivered, had a fever, and sweated. You should tell your doctor before you are given Hyalgan® if something like this has ever happened to you after receiving an injection of Hyalgan® or a similar material, i.e., hyaluronate products.
- Seven cases of fever were reported.
- One case of abnormally low blood pressure was reported.
- One episode of fainting occurred.
- Side effects sometimes seen when Hyalgan® is injected into the knee are pain, swelling, heat, and/or redness of the joint as well as rash, itching, or bruising where Hyalgan® is injected. These reactions were generally mild and did not last long.
- If any of the above symptoms or signs appear after you are given Hyalgan®, or if you have any other problems, you should call your doctor.

HOW IS HYALGAN® GIVEN?

Your doctor will give you an injection of Hyalgan® (20 mg/2 mL) into your knee. A treatment cycle consists of five injections given at weekly intervals. Some patients may experience benefit with three injections given at weekly intervals. This has been noted in studies reported in the literature in which patients treated with three injections were followed for 60 days.

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