

# SORE KNEES?



***NeoVisc Reduces  
Joint Pain &  
Improves Function***

# **NeoVisc<sup>®</sup>**

*Sterile Sodium Hyaluronate Solution 1.0%*



## Joint Pain is Often Associated with Osteoarthritis

OSTEOARTHRITIS IS NOT ONLY A DISEASE OF THE ELDERLY

Osteoarthritis (OA), or as it is sometimes called “Degenerative Joint Disease” is the most common form of arthritis, and a leading cause of disability in North America. It affects **one out of every three people over the age of 45** and this ratio increases with age.

### GRADE I - MILD



### GRADE II - MILD / MODERATE



### GRADE III - MODERATE



### GRADE IV - SEVERE



## Stages of OA

No matter what the cause the general outcome is gradual wearing down of joint cartilage, resulting in pain, loss of mobility and in some cases inflammation of the affected joint(s).

OA tends to affect weight bearing joints such as knees and hips more frequently. As the disease progresses, cartilage erodes to the point that bone begins to rub on bone.

Eventually, the joint loses shape and alignment. Bone ends thicken, forming bony growths called spurs or osteophytes. Bits of cartilage or bone can wear off and float in the joint space adding to the irritation and further affecting joint mobility.

## Early Diagnosis – Early Treatment May Help to Avoid Serious Damage to Your Joints

There is no cure for OA, but when you are diagnosed early and start the right treatment, you can take control of your disease and may delay or even avoid severe damage to your joints.<sup>1</sup> OA can be successfully managed in many ways including combinations of:<sup>1</sup>

- REST • EXERCISE • PHYSIOTHERAPY
- WEIGHT LOSS
- WEARING A BRACE • NATURAL REMEDIES
- OVER THE COUNTER MEDICINES
- VISCOSUPPLEMENTATION
- PRESCRIPTION MEDICINES • STEROID INJECTIONS
- SURGERY (KNEE REPLACEMENT)



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## ***Hyaluronate (HA) Keeps Joints Healthy***

Hyaluronate (*Hy' al' ur' on' ate*) occurs naturally in our bodies and is found in the synovial fluid and cartilage of healthy joints (*knees, hips, shoulders*). Synovial fluid provides lubrication and cushioning of the joint. Patients with OA typically experience pain and loss of mobility because of changes to the internal environment of the affected joint.

## ***What is NeoVisc®?***

A 1.0% solution of highly purified, natural hyaluronate, NeoVisc actually mimics the HA in the human body. Instead of just treating the symptoms of OA with pain medications, NeoVisc replaces the natural lubricating and shock-absorbing properties of the joint fluid. Simply speaking, an injection of NeoVisc is like putting oil on a rusty hinge.

NeoVisc was developed in Canada and has been available in Canada since 1997.

NeoVisc works best in the mild to moderate stages of OA. Because it is a natural HA product it can be used along with physical therapy, exercise and medicines (over the counter and prescription) to help manage pain due to OA.

NeoVisc reduces your pain and increases your mobility so you get back to doing the things you like to do.

## ***How is NeoVisc Administered?***

NeoVisc is injected with a small needle by your doctor into the joint of the affected knee(s).

The procedure takes place right in your doctor's office. Your doctor may have a supply of NeoVisc at the office, or will provide you with a prescription to take to your pharmacy.

NeoVisc is available in two sizes with different dosing schedules.



## ***Are the Injections Painful?***

As with all injections, there may be mild and short-lasting discomfort during the injection so your doctor may use a local anaesthetic. Your doctor will be able to discuss more details of the procedure with you.

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## Are There Any Side Effects?

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As with any injection, there may be the occurrence of temporary pain at the injection site. If the injected joint remains painful for more than 12 hours or becomes swollen, contact your doctor immediately.

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## Useful Tips for a Positive NeoVisc Experience:

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- *No excessive or strenuous activity for the first 24 hours after your injection*
- *Follow your doctor's instructions*
- *If you are overweight, lose weight, try to reduce pressure on your joints*
- *If your doctor has recommended exercises, do them faithfully (after waiting 24 hours after your injection)*
- *After your NeoVisc treatment book a six month follow-up visit with your doctor*
- *At the first signs of your OA symptoms reappearing, call your doctor to discuss your OA treatment plan*

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## Will NeoVisc Work for Me?

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NeoVisc works best for patients who have mild to moderate OA. Speak to your doctor to see if you are a candidate for NeoVisc therapy.

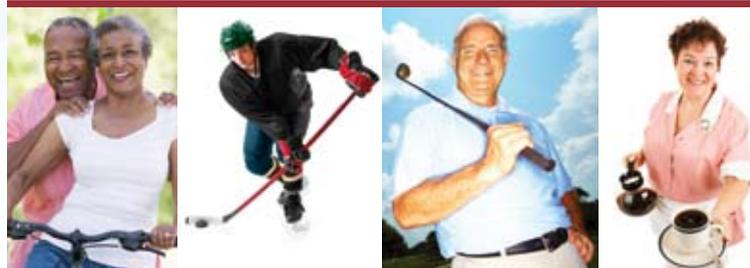
NeoVisc is the most cost-effective therapy available in Canada because NeoVisc is manufactured and distributed in Canada.

Most insurance companies cover products like NeoVisc under the *Extended Health Benefit Plan*. You should contact your insurance company directly for more information.

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## Support a Canadian Product Manufactured and Distributed by Canadians

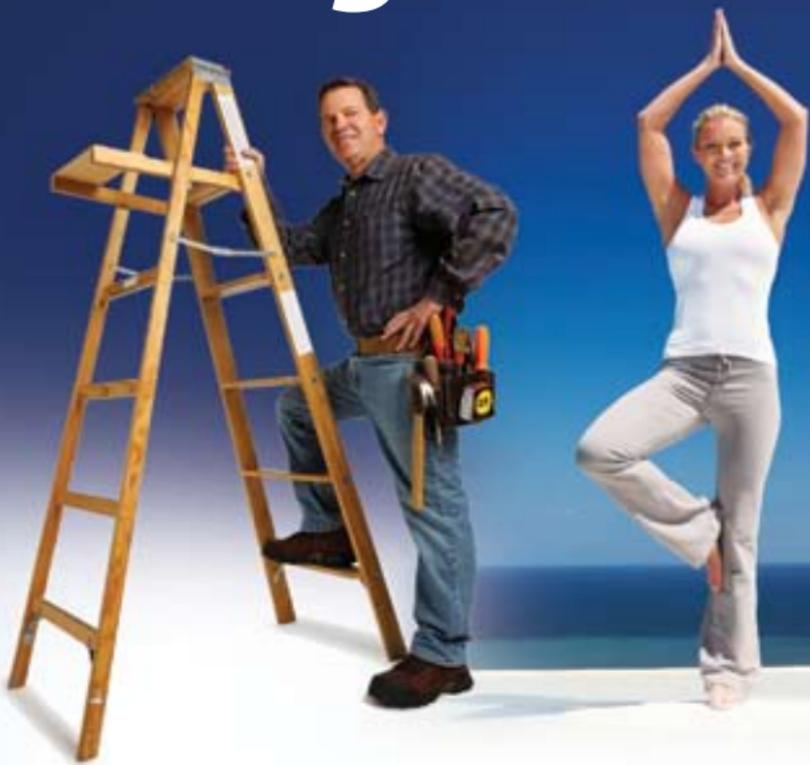
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# NeoVisc Reduces Joint Pain and Gets You Active Again



*Speak to your doctor about starting  
treatment with **NeoVisc** today.*

# NeoVisc<sup>®</sup>

*Sterile Sodium Hyaluronate Solution 1.0%*

Reference: 1. Osteoarthritis Know your Options.  
The Arthritis Society.

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