General Information
Supartz, Hylgan, Synvisc, Orthovisc and Euflexxa are joint fluid therapies approved for the treatment of osteoarthritis (OA) in the knee in patients who have responded poorly to non-medical therapy, analgesic therapy (eg. Tylenol, Advil, etc), and even corticosteroids. These drugs are a clear, viscous liquid (Hyaluronic Acid) that is injected into the knee joint. It is designed to provide long-term pain relief by supplementing the body's natural synovial fluid, which is degraded due to OA. The various formulations are administered by injection once a week for a total of three to five injections.

There are an estimated 21 million individuals suffering from OA in the United States. A person's joints, most commonly the knees and hips, are affected by degeneration that causes them to be painfully inflamed.

Clinical Results
The effectiveness of all three drugs have been extensively studied in patients suffering from OA in the knee in USA, Europe, and Japan. Since its introduction in Japan in 1987, over 100 million successful Supartz injections have been administered.

Mechanism of Action
Viscous hyaluronate is similar to the body's natural synovial fluid, which helps joints function by acting as a lubricant and shock absorber. Viscous hyaluronates are purified to remove all detectable DNA, protein, and endotoxins. The clear liquid is injected directly into the knee joint.

Side Effects
Adverse events associated with the use of sodium hyaluronate may include (but are not limited to) the following:
- joint pain
- injection site reaction (swelling, redness, heat)
- diarrhea
- headache
- nausea

Precautions
Anyone with the following conditions should not receive hyaluronic acid therapy: a history of allergies to hyaluronan preparations, joint infections or skin infections at the injection site, allergies to bird feathers/eggs and poultry.

Should you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact our office. We will be more than happy to answer any questions you may have.