## **Pros and Cons of Natural Pain Relief Options**

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I have assembled a short list of modalities that help with natural pain relief options.

All are enhanced when in combination with an anti-inflammatory plan. If the pain is chronic, there may be a need to combine all of them. You can decide for yourself which you would want to include or schedule a call with Joanna to review your situation. She can guide you as to which would be best for you or if you have any questions.

Natural Methods	Pros/ Benefits	Cons/ Side effects
Anti-inflammatory Diet	<ul> <li>Eliminates pain naturally</li> <li>Relatively easy if work with Joanna</li> <li>Feel the difference within a few weeks or months</li> <li>Increases mobility and recovery</li> <li>Proven system</li> <li>Uses real food first, sometimes supplements</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Can take several weeks to notice full effect depending on where you are to start.</li> <li>Need to commit to an almost daily routine</li> </ul>
Essential Oils	<ul> <li>Can have instant pain relief</li> <li>Available in therapeutic grade!</li> <li>Smell good!</li> <li>Made from plants so work well with human body</li> <li>Easily available and easy to use</li> <li>Use topically, some internally</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Can only apply a few times per day or may develop a rash</li> <li>May only last several hours</li> <li>Need to commit to regular use</li> </ul>
Physical therapy	<ul> <li>Improves alignment</li> <li>Improves muscle imbalances</li> <li>Reduces pain as a result of muscle and movement imbalances</li> <li>Includes manual massage and trigger point therapy as needed.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Can take months or years to correct imbalances depending on where you are when starting</li> <li>Can be a slow process unless you do it daily</li> <li>Can be frustrating to do the homework as needed</li> <li>Need to commit to regular visits and daily exercises to be done</li> </ul>
Chiropractic	<ul> <li>Assists in optimizing proper body alignment</li> <li>Can provide instant relief depending on where you are in cycle</li> <li>Is easy to implement</li> <li>Can feel relaxing</li> <li>Releases impingements in body structure (connective tissue) to body's healing process</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Can take several weeks to years to correct imbalances depending on where you are at start.</li> <li>Need to get treatments several times per week – can get expensive</li> <li>Not always covered by insurance</li> </ul>

Natural Methods	Pros/ Benefits	Cons/ Side effects
Yoga/ alignment  Energy Work/ Trauma release	<ul> <li>Helps to ground you into your body</li> <li>Helps alleviate stiffness</li> <li>Increases range of motion</li> <li>Improves mood and outlook</li> <li>Focuses on breathe and range of motion</li> <li>Relaxing and energizing</li> <li>Immediately reduces stress, calm</li> <li>Helps increase your resistance to stress and negativity</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Can take months or years to correct imbalances</li> <li>Can be a slower process</li> <li>Requires a regular practice</li> <li>Can take several sessions to correct emotional injury leading to pain.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Aids in reframing situations so you can see them with eyes of love.</li> <li>Can experience instant pain relief</li> <li>There is no homework</li> <li>Easy, fun and enlightening</li> <li>Assists in making self-care a priority</li> <li>Connects you to your inner healing abilities and Divine presence.</li> <li>Inspires hope and optimism.</li> <li>Helps you be present and reframe situation into an opportunity for growth</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Requires some patience and inner work between sessions</li> <li>Can be expensive if you require weekly sessions for a prolonged period of time.</li> </ul>
Self-Care	<ul> <li>Choose what brings you joy</li> <li>Your needs are a priority</li> <li>Brings a sense of peace and accomplishment</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Can make others mad or disappointed.</li> <li>Can take time and feel unproductive but it's not</li> </ul>
Recovery Movement Therapy	<ul> <li>Easy to do activities in 'recovery' mode – 65% of Max HR/ exertion</li> <li>Stimulates blood flow to improve innate healing ability</li> <li>Improves mood and outlook</li> <li>Requires a shift in mindset to healing vs training</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Needs to be limited to 20-40 minutes depending on activity</li> <li>Can be a slow process</li> <li>Can be frustrating to go so slow</li> <li>Requires 'proper' movements to avoid further damage</li> <li>Depression or anxiety</li> </ul>
Supplements	<ul> <li>Easy to use</li> <li>Easy to find</li> <li>Generally thought to be safe</li> <li>Somewhat effective depending on which</li> <li>May need a combination of several to get the effect wanted</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Can be expensive but less costly than medications</li> <li>May not work with your body chemistry</li> <li>Need an expert to know which is right for you</li> <li>May not be high quality</li> </ul>

Natural Methods	Pros/ Benefits	Cons/ Side effects
	May take up to a month before notice any improvement	<ul><li>Body toxicity if take too much</li><li>May not work well if eating high inflammatory foods</li></ul>
Acupuncture	<ul> <li>Can reduce symptoms quickly or over course of several appointments</li> <li>Easy to administer</li> <li>Not painful and usually relaxing</li> <li>Can activate body's natural ability to heal</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Can take a really long time depending on severity of situation</li> <li>Can get expensive over course of time depending on frequency of visits</li> </ul>
Prayer/ meditation	<ul> <li>Non-invasive method</li> <li>Easy to implement</li> <li>Focuses on intention and calming mind of fearful thoughts</li> <li>Uses faith in higher power to assist in healing the pain</li> <li>Can provide insight as to what steps need to be taken (from above) and can change over time</li> <li>Helps you be present and reframe situation into an opportunity for growth</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Can take a long time (except for spontaneous healing occurrences)</li> <li>Usually takes several weeks or months to notice improvement</li> </ul>