

Pawsitive Press

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Acupuncture 1
- Acupuncture Continued 2
- Welcome Dr. B! 3
- Coupons 4

Related Webpages:



[Veterinary Acupuncture](#)

Acupuncture

Greg Todd, DVM

As our pets enjoy longer lives, we as pet owners and veterinarians are constantly looking for additional tools to improve the quality and quantity of their lives. One such tool is veterinary acupuncture.

Veterinary acupuncture is an increasingly popular treatment option for pets. Presently, in the US there are over 4000 veterinarians who have received training in this modality. Acupuncture is a traditional therapy used for both people and animals for centuries. Veterinary acupuncture text books date back more than 2,000 years and acupuncture therapy has been used in species such as dogs, cats, horses, cows, pigs, and birds. It has even been used in elephants. Acupuncture utilizes the principles of Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCVM). In TCVM, there is a saying, "Inspect the exterior to examine the Interior." Basically, this means to assess information from a history, examination of the body, the patient's tongue and pulse to arrive at a diagnosis. From the



diagnosis a treatment plan is made and implemented.

Let's take a look at some answers to frequent questions regarding acupuncture.



What can acupuncture be used to treat? Actually, acupuncture is useful for many conditions including but not limited to arthritis, intervertebral disc disease, injuries of the muscles and tendons, skin conditions, epilepsy, cancers and tumors, gastrointestinal disease, reproductive diseases and metabolic diseases. Metabolic diseases are diseases like diabetes, hypo or hyperthyroidism, and Cushings syndrome (excessive cortisol).

Why not just use drugs? Drugs are powerful tools and are an essential part of

veterinary practice; however, drugs have limitations and side effects. Acupuncture is one the safest forms of medical treatment in the world. It uses the body's own communications systems, the nervous, glandular, and circulatory systems, to help correct acute and chronic diseases with little or no side effects. Acupuncture is an extremely powerful tool as is conventional medicine. When acupuncture is integrated with conventional medicine, surgery, herbal therapies, proper diet and exercise, many diseases which do not respond to drugs, surgery or acupuncture alone, can get better.



How many needles do you use? The average acupuncture treatment consists of between 1 and 30 needles. These may be placed in virtually all portions of the body. The treatments are performed with mom and dad right in the exam rooms.

Does Acupuncture only use needles? Acupuncture has used needles specifically made for that purpose for thousands of years; however, sometimes acupoints can be stimulated with other techniques. These techniques include acupressure or Tui-na, aquapuncture and electroacupuncture.

What is Tui-na? Tui-na is a system of message techniques based on Traditional Chinese Veterinary Medicine (TCVM). These techniques can be helpful in treating our patients by massaging and stretching them in various ways. Often Pet Parents will be shown some of these techniques to use at home as a compliment to acupuncture and herbs. These techniques require greater frequency of administration than acupuncture needles.



What is Aquapuncture? In some instances, acupuncture points are injected with substances such as saline, vitamin B12 or even the patient's own blood. This technique is used when a point may need a longer stimulation than with dry needles alone or if a patient doesn't tolerate dry needles well.



What is electroacupuncture and why use it?

Electroacupuncture is a commonly used technique where a low voltage current is passed through the needles to stimulate the acupuncture needles. This is done with a machine specifically designed for that purpose. The use of electroacupuncture allows for stimulation of more and different nociceptors (pain receptors) that can help speed improvement in cases of musculoskeletal diseases. It is also employed in some medical conditions to improve organ function.



Does it hurt? While acupuncture is not painful, there can occasionally be a sensation associated with the needle insertion, but it really does not feel like a needle stick. Acupuncture needles are very small in diameter and do not have a cutting edge. This allows them to be inserted with less sensation than the average injection needle.

When would I expect to see results? Most patients show improvement within 3 to 5 treatments.

How many treatments are needed? The number of treatments required can vary based on the condition being treated. Some chronic

conditions can require chronic treatment. Most times, after eight treatments, the treatments will either be stopped or spread out of intervals of 8 to 12 weeks.

So, in summary, acupuncture is a safe, effective, relatively painless, and readily available therapy for a wide variety of medical conditions. Please don't hesitate to call regarding questions or for more information.



Dr. Todd performing an acupuncture treatment on "Blue" Reeves



WELCOME DR. MIKE BARTHOLOMEW TO THE ANIMAL HOSPITAL OF DUNEDIN FAMILY!

"Every pet deserves an excellent quality of life. My goal is to use an integrative medicine approach to achieve the best possible outcome for your pet. "



DVM: Veterinary Medicine, University of Illinois, 2001 **CVA:** Chi Institute of Chinese Medicine, 2003

CVT: Chi Institute of Chinese Medicine, 2006

CVH: Chi Institute of Chinese Medicine, 2007

CVFT: Chi Institute of Chinese Medicine, 2009

BS: Veterinary Medicine, University of Illinois, 1998

BS: Biology, Mount Saint Mary's College, 1996

Continuing Education:

- North American Veterinary Conference
- Chi Institute of Chinese Medicine

Professional Memberships:

- American Veterinary Medical Association
- Chi Institute

Lecturer and Lab Instructor: Chi Institute of Chinese Medicine - Acupuncture, Herbology, Tui-Na

Author: "Natural Solutions For Seizures," Dogs Naturally Magazine

Co-Author/Editor: Several chapters, "Xie's Veterinary Herbology"

Author: Several community outreach articles including topics from Tick Borne Illness to Animal

Magnetism: The Healing Power of PEMF

Community Outreach Lectures: Inflammatory Bowel Disease: An Integrative Approach; Creature

Comforts and Joy: Create Your Own Spa Treatments For Your Seniors, Arthritic Pets, and Couch Potato Cats; Get In The Know About Vaccines; An Integrative Approach to Health and Vaccination in Dogs

And Now For Something Completely Different...

Dr. Bartholomew has been a guest on several national radio programs and has been interviewed for several magazines including Dog Fancy's Natural Dog for his knowledge of Traditional Chinese Veterinary Medicine.

Animal Hospital of Dunedin
1355 Pinehurst Rd
Dunedin, FL 34698

Phone: 727-733-9351
Fax: 727-733-8165
E-mail:
practicemanager@tampabay.rr.com



“Caring for pets with love and kindness”



We're on the Web!
www.ahofd.com



Animal Hospital
OF DUNEDIN
Caring for Pets with Love and Kindness

\$1

First Exam - New Patient

(\$65-\$80 Savings_)

Includes comprehensive physical exam and one vaccine. Does not include 3yr Rabies vaccine. Coupon may not be combined with any other offer.

Expires: 05/31/14
NL



Animal Hospital
OF DUNEDIN
Caring for Pets with Love and Kindness

\$12 Mail in Rebate

Any Size Heartgard

Purchase 12 months of any size Heartgard and receive a \$12 mail-in rebate. The rebate form will be filled out and mailed in by our staff and Merial will mail a check directly to your home. By law, pets must have been seen in our office within the last 12 months and should have a negative heartworm test.

Expires: 05/31/14
NL



Animal Hospital
OF DUNEDIN
Caring for Pets with Love and Kindness

\$10 Off

\$200 Retail Mix and Match

- *Shampoo
- *Heartworm Prevention
- *Flea and Tick Control
- *Food
- *Prescription Medication
- *Dietary Supplements

Expires 05/31/14
NL