

# VETERINARY MEDICAL ACUPUNCTURE



DR. LAURA SCOTT



Dr. Laura Scott completed the 140 hour Colorado State University Veterinary Medical Acupuncture Program in 2010.

Dr. Scott received her BA in Psychology from Arizona State University in 1993 and her Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine from Colorado State University in 2002. Her hobbies include yoga, climbing, travel, reading and enjoying the outdoors on her horse Star.



**NORTHGATE**  
ANIMAL HOSPITAL

Acupuncture treats the body naturally via neuromodulation. **Neuromodulation** is the stimulation and normalization of the nervous system, which in turn benefits nerves, muscles, bones, organs and the immune system. **Acupuncture** helps animals feel better through reduced pain, improved function of the body, decreased inflammation and improved healing.



## TIMING/FREQUENCY

Length of a session depends on the animal's comfort with the treatment, and may vary from 20-60 minutes. **Owners are welcome to stay with their pet during treatment or may schedule a drop-off appointment.** A typical protocol recommends once weekly for 3 weeks then once every 4-6 weeks as needed to maintain an older pet's comfort. Young animals with healing injuries often resolve after the initial 3 treatments.

## SAFETY

Veterinary medical acupuncture is performed with sterile, very thin, stainless steel needles. **It is one of the safest therapies** utilized if practiced by a competent, professionally trained veterinary acupuncturist. Side effects are rare. Acupuncture balances the body's own systems of function and healing, and no chemicals are administered, therefore complications rarely develop.

## HOW IT WORKS

A healthy body is said to be in homeostasis or balance. Illness and/or injury cause the body (nervous system) to become unbalanced. Acupuncture is a key therapy used to bring the body back into its proper homeostatic state and is known to affect all major physiological systems.

**It works primarily through the central nervous system affecting the musculoskeletal, hormonal and cardiovascular systems.** Acupuncture does more than relieve pain and how it works depends on what condition is being treated as well as which points are utilized. Acupuncture increases circulation and cause release of many neuro-chemicals. Some of these neuro-chemicals are endorphins, the body's natural painkilling hormones. Endorphins relieve muscle spasms, stimulate nerves, stimulate the body's defense systems as well as numerous other beneficial effects.

Acupuncture is a safe, natural, effective healing medical treatment for your pet.

- 🐾 MUSCULOSKELETAL
- 🐾 NEUROLOGICAL
- 🐾 PAIN RELIEF/ARTHRITIS
- 🐾 GASTROINTESTINAL
- 🐾 LIVER/KIDNEY
- 🐾 FELINE ASTHMA
- 🐾 WOUNDS
- 🐾 INFLAMMATION
- 🐾 POOR APPETITE
- 🐾 ANXIETY



## ANIMAL REACTION

For animals, the insertion of the acupuncture needle is virtually painless. A brief reaction may be seen in a particular sore or tight muscle. **Most animals become very relaxed and may even fall asleep.**