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To find a veterinary chiropractor in your area contact the American Veterinary Chiropractic Association at www.animalchiropractic.org or 918-784-2231.

Chiropractic For Animals



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Chiropractic For Animals



Chiropractic
is a
drug-free
approach
for pets,
farm and
other
animals.

Chiropractic for dogs and cats? Absolutely! How about chiropractic for cows, sheep, tigers, birds, lizards, snakes and horses? Why not?

Just like humans, animals with spinal columns can develop spinal (vertebral) subluxations—misalignments of the spinal bones—and sometimes other parts of the skeleton, that damage or irritate the nervous system causing body malfunction. Uncorrected subluxations cause body disharmony or dis-ease. A dis-eased body doesn't work so well—it is less able to handle the stresses of life, has lowered resistance to disease, less energy, premature aging and ultimately develops disease.

Chiropractors spend many years learning how to analyze the spine for vertebral subluxations and how to correct them using the art of the chiropractic spinal adjustment.

As with people, chiropractic is a natural, drug-free approach for non-people: pets and farm, zoo and exotic animals.

Is This Something New?

Since chiropractic's early days farmers brought their cows, bulls, horses and other animals to this "new fangled drugless healer." By 1918 the Palmer College of Chiropractic was offering a Doctor of

Chiropractic Veterinary degree. In 1923, the *Fountain Head News* told of the successful cure of two partially paralyzed pigs.¹

Veterinary Chiropractic Specialty

Animal adjusting has grown tremendously in popularity. Organizations such as the American Veterinary Chiropractic Association (AVCA) certify chiropractors and veterinarians in veterinary chiropractic. These doctors are confident in their skills. Larry Allen, DC, Certified Animal Chiropractor of Temecula, CA says, "If it has a spine, I'll adjust it!" He adds, "I'll adjust you and the horse you rode in on."²

Dr. Allen recounts one case where the vet diagnosed disc protrusion in a dog. After eight X-rays and cortisone injections the problem was not any better! After one adjustment, "[He] showed immediate improvement, and continued to improve on a daily basis. He has not shown any signs of pain and is his old wiggly, playful self."³

San Francisco, CA chiropractor Michael Gleason sees only four legged spines. "[Initially] I was working with animals three days a week and in my clinic three days a week with my human patients." Now, Dr. Gleason's practice is 60% large animals, 40% small animals and no human beings at all."⁴

The patients that hop, jump, lope, slither, fly or trot have a lot of the same problems that bring many walking patients to their chiropractor: spinal pain, muscle spasms, nerve problems, disc problems, limping, injuries from falls and accidents, jaw (TMJ) problems, difficulty chewing, vomiting, respiratory or urinary infections, diarrhea, constipation, incontinence, seizures, neurological problems, lameness, leg weakness, paralysis and others.

Horse Problems

Race horse owners particularly seek out chiropractors since adjustments may improve running time. In some cases winning by a nose may be more accurately "winning by a vertebrae." Chiropractic care for horses' unique problems include being halter shy, not standing still for mounting, bucking/rearing, hopping in trot, disunited canter and uneven wear of hooves.

Chiropractic For Exotic Animals

Birds that fly into windows, dropped guinea pigs, stepped on snakes, limping lizards and even tigers need chiropractic care.

Only a chiropractor can tell if your pet's spine needs an adjustment.

corrected in his office.⁵

How about a really big cat? *Good Housekeeping* highlighted



Dr. Michael Gleason adjusting Rakhan, a 450 pound Bengal tiger. "Sure I was nervous, but there was a handler on either side of the tiger's head, and another one in front feeding the tiger milk.

They brought me in from behind. You aren't supposed to look a tiger in the face if he doesn't know you," said Dr. Gleason. Another of his patients is a 58-year-old retired circus elephant named Ginny.⁶ *Life Magazine's* pictorial of "Alternative Medicine" for pets included a photo of William Farber, DC adjusting Athena, a two-year-old monitor lizard that "hadn't been herself since a fall."⁷

How Often?

The frequency of care depends on each animal's need. For example, animals that have long backs in proportion to their body (dachshunds) appear more prone to spinal problems; German Shepherds, Rottweilers and other large dogs suffer from hip dysplasia.

Try Chiropractic First

It's best to try chiropractic first, although many times chiropractic has been a last resort and it has produced miraculous results. Chiropractors have many stories of pets scheduled to be "put to sleep" by veterinarians that were brought back to health after a single chiropractic adjustment. Before such drastic action is



Your pets need careful attention as much as their owners do.

taken, please make sure your pet is free from subluxations.

DOGworld, the world's leading all-breed dog magazine, ran a special report on chiropractic and dogs entitled, "Chiropractic gets your dog's health aligned." Although about dogs, you can replace the word dog with your favorite furry, feathery or scaly creature: "Chiropractic care can improve our animal companion's health and quality of life. All dogs, regardless of their age, can benefit from periodic chiropractic checkups...puppies also benefit from chiropractic care."⁸

In Conclusion

Want your pet to live a healthier, more natural, drug-free life? Bring your favorite animal friend to your nearest animal chiropractor for a spinal checkup. It may make the difference between sickness and health and even between life and death. While you're at it, don't forget your kids. Humans need chiropractic too!