

ANIMAL REHABILITATION

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

EDUCATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

6TH ANNUAL VETERINARY REHABILITATION SYMPOSIUM

The 6th International Association of Veterinary Rehabilitation and Physical Therapy Symposium will be held August 4-7th, 2010, at Auburn University in Auburn, AL. There will be programming on small and large animal rehabilitation, including basic as well as advanced clinical tracks. This is a great opportunity to learn more about animal rehabilitation as well as to network with other professionals working in the field. For more information and to register, go to <http://vetrehabsymposium.weebly.com/>

CSM 2011 - ARSIG PROGRAMMING

The Animal Rehabilitation Special Interest Group promises to bring an exciting and informative 3 hours of programming. Dr. Jan Van Dyke, DVM, CCRT will discuss types and recognition of zoonotic diseases in veterinary medicine. 'Red flags' will describe rehabilitation diagnoses with underlying medical causes. Please join us--it's bound to be 'contagious!'

TITLE: Veterinary Zoonoses, What You Need to Know Before You Treat That Puppy! and Veterinary Red Flags, Endocrine, Metabolic, and Medical Syndromes That Might Be Lurking in Your Canine Rehab Patient

Objectives: Zoonoses

- (1) Understand the diseases that can cause severe illness when transmitted between human and veterinary patients.
- (2) Recognize symptoms that might indicate a potential zoonosis.
- (3) Recognize vectors of zoonoses and know how to address them.
- (4) Understand the environmental conditions that can contribute to spread of zoonotic diseases.

Participants will learn about zoonoses, diseases that can be transmitted between animals and people, and how they can present in veterinary practice. Methods to recognize these diseases and to prevent accidental transmission will be discussed. Disease vectors, environmental contamination, and disinfecting techniques will be clarified.

Objectives: Red Flags

- (1) Understand the diseases that can present as apparent musculoskeletal impairments, but which have underlying medical causes.
- (2) Recognize the endocrine and metabolic diseases common in the canine population.

- (3) Recognize symptoms of impending crisis or those that would preclude pursuing rehabilitation therapy.
- (4) Be able to discuss the pharmacodynamics of the drugs commonly prescribed for the above conditions, and how they would impact the rehabilitation therapeutic plan.

Participants will learn about the myriad diseases and medical conditions that can present as lameness, weakness, or neurological impairment, referred for rehabilitation therapy, but needing careful medical monitoring and management. Examples will be given of commonly seen endocrine, metabolic, and medical conditions of canine patients presented for rehabilitation. Symptoms that should alert the therapist to refer the patient back to the veterinarian will be listed and described as will the pharmacodynamics of commonly used medications to treat these disorders.

EDUCATIONAL HANDOUTS FOR YOUR CLIENTS:

These were contributed by Charles Evans, PT, CCRP, who works at Massachusetts Veterinary Referral Hospital. He kindly forwarded some of the handouts they use for their clients following surgery. Here is a general information sheet on preparing the house for an animal following orthopedic surgery.

PREPARING THE HOUSE FOR THE RECOVERING PET FOLLOWING ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY

The first 4 weeks after surgery are critical to your pet's recovery. So it is important that you start preparing your home environment before the surgery in order to clear the way for your participation in your pet's physical therapy plan.

Confinement

- Your dog's activities will have to be severely restricted during the important 6-10 weeks of recovery.
- He/she will have to be confined to a crate* or a small room that can be gated off (bathroom or laundry room).
- Try to place your dog in as quiet a place as possible during the early recovery phase.

Traction

- Good footing is very important during the early phase of recovery.
- If you have tile, wood, or linoleum flooring, cover the floor with rugs that have a rubber, nonskid backing to help with traction.

