

Osteopathy for Animals

Nicky Forder Bsc Hons OST MED.ND.Society Osteopaths in Animal practice.

Nicky Forder qualified from the British College of Osteopathic Medicine with a degree in Osteopathic medicine Having completed post graduate training in Animal Osteopathy with Stuart McGregor in Oxfordshire and The (UK) Society of Osteopaths in Animal Practice she practices in Cambridge / Suffolk / Essex / Hertfordshire treating dogs, horses and people.

The Law / Vets Permission

- ✓ It is a criminal offence for anyone to treat an animal without the permission of a vet.(Veterinary Act . 1966). Anyone doing so is uninsured and breaking the law.
- ✓ Consulting with your vet does not just abide with the law, but can give vital information about your dog's medical history, scan results, X-rays, and medication.
- ✓ Osteopaths are medically trained to treat your dog and undergo an extensive medical training in anatomy, physiology, pathology and diagnosis.
- ✓ You will be asked to give details such as your vets telephone number, and address prior to your dog's first consultation.
- ✓ Vets are usually more than happy to give consent and past medical history details. This provides important information to obtain the most accurate diagnosis and best possible chance of recovery for your dog.

If in doubt always ask your practitioner if they have appropriate training, and details of their college they qualified from. Any legitimate animal osteopath will be happy to supply this information to keep your dog safe.

Canine osteopaths treat:

- ✓ All breeds of dog
- ✓ Puppies
- ✓ household dogs
- ✓ working, show
- ✓ racing and agility dogs
- ✓ Dogs of all ages.

Regular treatment of racing and agility dogs suffering from musculoskeletal imbalances can be helped to improve their performance. Canine Osteopaths treat the dog's body as a whole, rather than focusing on any one particular area of injury. The aim is to always look for the underlying cause (s) of the dog's problem and return the body to balance.

When should I consult an osteopath

- ✓ If a dog is recovering from injury
- ✓ Change to personality/behaviour due to pain
- ✓ Difficulty getting into/out of a car
- ✓ Reluctance to go for a walk/get out of their bed
- ✓ Whimpering/biting/growling when touched or groomed
- ✓ Change in competition performance
- ✓ Training difficulties-reluctance with weaves/dog walk/knocking poles
- ✓ Refusal to sit/lie down in a dog who usually does
- ✓ Increased stiffness
- ✓ Reduced leg stride

Problems can occur for the following reasons:

- ✓ Trauma and accidents: (vet should be consulted first) falls, collisions, slipping, fighting
- ✓ Repetitive injuries: jumping on/off sofa, in out of the car
- ✓ Breed weakness: dogs with long backs and relatively short legs can be prone to disc problems. Hip dysplasia common in some breeds.
- ✓ Post trauma
- ✓ End of agility season
- ✓ Arthritis causing changes to gait and overuse of other joints and muscles
- ✓

Misalignments can cause various symptoms and the dog will often be stiffer and lack normal range of movement. Ligaments and joints will be put under more strain, lose flexibility and increase further chance of injury.

CONTACT FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION/QUERIES



Canine Equine Spine
Keeping Your Dogs and Horses On The Move

Animal Osteopathy
Mrs N.E Forder
Animal Osteopath BSc (Hons) Ost. Med
nicky.forder@googlemail.com
Mobile: 07411 409672

The business card features a grey background with white silhouettes of birds in flight at the top and grass at the bottom. On the left, there are yellow paw prints and a brown silhouette of a horse in profile.