Acupuncture is an ancient healing art that has been used in Chinese, Japanese and Korean Medicine for many hundreds of years. Over that time, it has gone through many transformations as new discoveries were made and old were discarded. The newest incarnation of acupuncture is Medical Acupuncture.

Dr. Michael Petty

Dr. Petty is the owner of Arbor Pointe Veterinary Hospital and the Animal Pain Center. Dr. Petty has many credentials related to the management of pain.

Certified Medical Veterinary Acupuncturist
Diplomate, American Academy of Pain Management
Certified Veterinary Pain Practitioner
Certified Canine Rehabilitation Therapist

Dr. Petty is also the Past-President of the International Veterinary Academy of Pain Management

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Horses

Horses are especially rewarding to acupuncture. When they respond, it is often dramatic. The most common reason horses are acupunctured is for pain issues, although acupuncture is performed for medical issues as well, including chronic colic and regurgitation, allergies, laminitis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and more. Dr. Petty requests that a diagnosis is first made by your regular equine veterinarian. He may then ask for additional diagnostics tests to be done including lab work and radiographs. At that point he will perform a DAPE® exam and an acupuncture treatment plan is set up. Dr. Petty will email you a questionnaire to help determine your horse’s soma or “personality.” Some soma types do better with mild sedation during acupuncture.

Top photo: Horse acupuncture. Bottom Photo: Moxibustion, an herbal and heat acupuncture treatment

* A DAPE exam is a Diagnostic Acupuncture Physical Exam which helps locate diseased areas.
Problems Treated

There are countless conditions that can be treated by Medical Acupuncture. Pain from osteoarthritis, cancer, disc injury and other sources of pain are among the most gratifying of treatments. But there are many other treatable diseases including neurological diseases, reproductive disorders, allergic issues, cardiac issues, kidney and liver disease just to name a few. Top: A cat enjoying Electroacupuncture. Bottom: Tear Dysfunction

What is Medical Acupuncture?

Medical Veterinary Acupuncture

Medical Acupuncture sets itself apart from other types of Eastern acupuncture in that it is a type of acupuncture treatment derived from research and evidence-based medicine. In other words, there is a sound reason behind every acupuncture point that is used. Traditional Chinese Acupuncture is based on thousand year old ideas, mythology, mystical energy meridians and diagnostic methods that may have had their time prior to the advent of modern medicine, but are based on ideas that have little relevance in today’s world of advanced diagnostics.

Why is Medical Better?

The first advantage that Medical Acupuncture has over Traditional Chinese Medicine is in the diagnosis. A Western medical diagnosis is made for your pet by any combination of physical exam, diagnostic imaging and laboratory tests. This is in contrast to Traditional Chinese Medicine whose diagnostic mainstays are taking a pulse and looking for abnormalities of the tongue. The second advantage of Medical Acupuncture is that each treatment is tailored to the needs of the animal. There are no set formulas, no mystical energies to consider, and no folklore behind the treatment decisions. The third advantage is that if results are not satisfactory, it is much easier for the practitioner of Medical Acupuncture to change the treatment protocols and pair the treatment with sound Western medications and other modalities.

Is Acupuncture For My Pet?

If your pet has not responded to other treatments or you are worried about the side effects of medications or you just want the best for your pet, chances are the answer is “Yes!” For testimonials go to www.arborpointe.com

Integrative Medicine

At the Animal Pain Center, we do more than Medical Acupuncture. Dr. Petty is trained in many different modalities of pain management. This gives him a distinct advantage in treating serious pain issues using the best advances in Western Medicine, Rehabilitation, Manipulation of bones, joints, and myofascia, Trigger Point therapy and more.

We take appointments from anyone that has a pet that needs help with pain. We also take referrals from surrounding veterinary hospitals, working with your veterinarian as part of a team approach to diagnose and/or treat diseases and conditions using Medical Acupuncture, Physiotherapy, A Drug Treatment Plan, Nutritional Supplements, or a combination of all of the above.

We do not prescribe or endorse the use of herbal supplements including traditional Chinese herbs unless there is sound scientific studies supporting their use and safety. We only want the best for your pet.