

## How to Recognize Pain?

Any of the following may be signs of pain

- Loss of Normal Behavior
- Decreased Activity
- Lethargic Attitude
- Crying out Unexpectedly
- Decreased Interaction
- with other pets or family
- Inappropriate Elimination
- Decreased Appetite
- Whining/Vocalization
- Aggression
- Visible Limping
- Increased Body Tension
- Flinching Response to Gentle Touch

## Physiologic Signs of Pain

- Increased Heart Rate
- Increased Respiratory Rate
- Increased Blood Pressure
- Increased Body Temperature
- Dilated Pupils

## Chronic Pain Effects

Pain involves an incredibly complicated myriad of body responses leading to the perception of an unpleasant sensation arising from actual or potential tissue damage.

Long term exposure to pathologic pain(pain from tissue injury, inflammation, or nervous system damage) increases the pain receptors throughout the body via various mediators. The net effect is an increase in the intensity and duration of pain.

Two important concepts should be kept in mind when treating pain.

1. Early treatment prevents the “build-up” of pain response.
2. Using more than one pain management strategy allows for lower/safer drug dosages and overall improved comfort levels.



### Animal Medical Services

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### Galax Veterinary Clinic

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Galax, VA 24333

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## PATIENT COMFORT MANAGEMENT



### Acupuncture Treatment Series

### Class IV Laser Treatment Series

### Post-operative Pain Management

### Critical Care Pain Management

*At Animal Medical Services and Galax  
Veterinary Clinic we strive to keep our patients  
as pain-free and comfortable as possible.*

## ACUPUNCTURE



Acupuncture is a Traditional Chinese method of healing in which needles are inserted into areas of high energy (or acupoints) in the body to help stimulate the body to heal from the inside out.

### Conditions Treated by Acupuncture

#### Small Animal

- Vomiting/Diarrhea
- Degenerative Disk Disease
- Kidney Failure
- Hepatitis/Liver Failure
- Muscle Damage/Pain
- Bladder Infections
- Arthritis
- Respiratory Allergies
- Asthma
- Thyroid Disease
- Paralysis/Paresis
- Skin Disease/Allergies
- Autoimmune
- Behavior Problems/Anxiety
- Neurologic Disease
- Many More

#### Large Animal

- Colic
- Injury/Tendon/Ligaments
- Joint Injuries and Pain
- Laminitis
- EPM
- Allergies
- Heaves
- Laryngeal Paralysis
- Thyroid Disease/Metabolic Syndrome
- Reproductive Issues
- Skin Diseases
- Wobblers
- Autoimmune Disease
- Anxiety
- Many More

### Starting out (Assessment = \$82 Treatment - \$40)

We begin with an acupuncture assessment visit to discuss what acupuncture is, make appropriate treatment goals for your pet, and have the first treatment. We will then do a series of treatments every 1-3 weeks. At least 3-4 treatments must be done before we evaluate response.



K-LaserTherapy. Drug**FREE**. Surgery **FREE**. Pain **FREE**

**LASER THERAPY** can help YOUR animal with:

- Osteoarthritis
- Joint /Ligement/Muscle
- Edema and Congestion
- Post-Surgical Pain
- Neck and Back Pain
- Puncture Wounds
- Post-Traumatic Injury
- Hip Dysplasia
- Burns
- Chronic Wounds
- Rehabilitation

### Starting Out

(Initial Series= \$150, Additional Treatment = \$40)

We begin with 3 weeks of laser treatments for an initial series. (Week 1:3 treatments, Week 2: 2 treatments, Week 3: 1 treatment). We will then evaluate response and move to a maintenance schedule every 4-8 weeks or as needed.

We also provide individual sessions on an as needed basis as determined by your doctor.

## CLASS IV KLASER



## SURGICAL & CRITICAL CARE PAIN MANAGEMENT

### Surgery and Critical Care

Like you, we strive to keep your pet as comfortable and pain-free as possible through any surgery, procedure, or long-term treatment that may be necessary. Please discuss these pain management options with your doctor:

- Post-operative Laser Therapy
- Post-operative pain injections
- Post-operative acupuncture
- Local nerve blocks
- Epidural blocks
- **Continuous Rate Infusion** of local and systemic pain medications

