

# Canine & Feline Rehabilitation



Ashton Thompson,  
DVM, CCRP

## Education

Louisiana State University, BS Animal Science and Technology – 2009  
Auburn University, DVM – 2013

## Certification

CRP – Certified Canine Rehabilitation Practitioner – 2016

## Professional Affiliations

AVMA, IVMA, CIVMA, AAHA

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James R. Speiser,  
DVM, DABVP, CCRT, RSO

## Education

University of Illinois, DVM – 1977

## Internship

South Shore Veterinary Associates – 1978

## Specialty Board Certification

Diplomate, ABVP (Canine and Feline Practice)  
– 1983,  
– Recertified in 1992, 2002, 2012

CCRT – Certified Canine Rehabilitation Therapist – 2009

RSO – Certified Radiation Safety Officer – 2007

## Professional Affiliations

AVMA, IVMA, CIVMA, VECCS, AAHA

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## Why Rehab?

- If your best friend has had a surgical procedure due to injury, has been slowed down by aging or disease, or could benefit from a weight loss or conditioning program, rehabilitation can accelerate their road to recovery and well-being.
- Did you know that loss of muscle mass can begin within 24 hours following surgery or serious injury? Injuries can also lead to pain, swelling, loss of motor control, and joint stiffening. Rehabilitation therapy can help to combat these problems.

## How Can Rehab Help?

- Improved joint and muscle function
- Increased strength, balance, flexibility, endurance, and performance
- Decreased pain, swelling, and complications
- Decreased loss of muscle mass
- Increased speed of healing and recovery
- Positive psychological benefits

## Our Programs

- Orthopedic and Neurologic Rehabilitation
- Geriatric / Osteoarthritis Program
- Weight Loss Program
- Athletic Conditioning Program
- Home Exercise Program



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## Orthopedic/Neurologic Rehabilitation

Pets suffering from orthopedic or neurologic issues often have pain, weakness, loss of muscle mass, imbalances, and decreased mobility. Through rehabilitation, we focus on strengthening, flexibility, gait retraining, and increasing comfort levels so that our patients can regain function. We combine therapeutic exercise with treatments such as laser, electrical stimulation, and therapeutic ultrasound to achieve these outcomes.

## Geriatric / Osteoarthritis Program

As pets age, they become prone to slowing down due to decreased mobility, weight gain, and joint discomfort from arthritic changes. Our geriatric and osteoarthritis program focuses on increasing your pet's mobility, strength, and comfort so that they can maintain an active, high quality lifestyle.

## Weight Loss Program

Overweight pets often suffer from joint pain, decreased mobility, carry an increased risk of injury, and have a decreased life span. Our weight loss program is focused on underwater treadmill sessions, land exercises, nutritional recommendations, and at-home programming.

## Athletic Conditioning Program

Our athletic conditioning program can assist you with increasing your pet's fitness level. Through a combination of underwater treadmill sessions and land exercises, we can improve your pet's muscular and cardiorespiratory strength and endurance. We can also provide non-pharmaceutical treatments to relieve muscle and joint discomfort.

## Home Exercise Program

If you have a long commute, this program is for you. After an initial in-clinic consult, we can provide you with a tailored treatment plan that includes access to videos and directions for exercises you can perform at home. As your pet advances, we will work closely with you to update this program so that your pet achieves their highest level of success.

## Therapeutic Exercise

Therapeutic exercise is a combination of strengthening, balance, and awareness exercises, along with range of motion and stretching. It is used to improve a patient's muscular strength, core strength, endurance, flexibility, mobility, speed, limb placement, and balance. It achieves these outcomes by increasing muscle mass, providing more comfortable movement, and improving performance so as to reduce future injury.

## Therapeutic Ultrasound

Therapeutic ultrasound uses sound waves to create deep tissue heating. This allows for increased stretching of tissues which results in enhanced movement of joints and muscles. It also decreases pain and muscle spasms and promotes wound and fracture healing.

## Aquatic Therapy

The use of an underwater treadmill allows for pets with balance issues, pain, or muscle weakness, to exercise more comfortably due to the buoyancy of the water. It is also helpful for patients recovering from a recent surgery or injury and for neurologic patients. The resistance of the water enhances range of motion and muscular strength and endurance. Therapeutic heating effects are also achieved due to the water being kept at a warm temperature.

## Therapeutic Laser

Therapeutic laser is a form of light therapy that enhances cellular functions to promote healing. This form of therapy assists with pain management, reduces inflammation, and accelerates tissue, wound, and nerve repair.

## Electrical Stimulation

Neuromuscular electrical stimulation uses a current to stimulate muscle contraction. This increases muscular strength and endurance, provides muscle re-education following injury, decreases muscle loss from disuse of a limb, and improves joint mobility. Electrical stimulation is also used for pain control, to reduce swelling, and to accelerate wound healing.



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## Stance Analyzation

When a pet has a normal stance, the front limbs bear 60% of the pet's weight and the rear limbs bear 40%. In a pet experiencing a visible lameness, pain, or structural abnormality, these numbers are altered. Using a computerized system, we are able to objectively evaluate these parameters. This can be useful for evaluating your pet, creating tailored treatment plans, and tracking your pet's progress.

## Pulsed Electromagnetic Field Therapy

Pulsed electromagnetic field therapy uses targeted electromagnetic pulses to enhance cellular pathways involved in decreasing inflammation. It has also been shown to accelerate healing. This therapy is a safe and effective approach to pain management and is a great alternative or complement to pharmaceutical therapies aimed at reducing pain and inflammation. This therapy can even be utilized in the comfort of your home.

## Our Products

- ToeGrips (great for pets on slippery floors)
- Fitness equipment
- Booties, orthotics, and carts
- Nutritional supplements
- Assisi Loop
- Harnesses and slings

## Commitment To Care

Upon arrival, each patient's history is reviewed by a doctor prior to performing a detailed examination. Each doctor can immediately collaborate with any of the other specialists, in order to provide the best care possible within the financial means of the client. Each client is treated with kindness, sensitivity and empathy. We understand that this can be an anxious time for clients and we aim to make each visit as calm and efficient as possible.

IndyVet is an American Animal Hospital Association accredited hospital. AAHA is the only organization that inspects and accredits veterinary practices in North America. Every three years, AAHA evaluates approximately 900 standards of veterinary excellence in order to remain accredited. Less than 15% of veterinary practices in the United States hold the "AAHA accredited" designation.

## What We Do

Our facility is an extension of your veterinarian's practice. All pets are seen for their referred problem only. Wellness veterinary care is not performed.

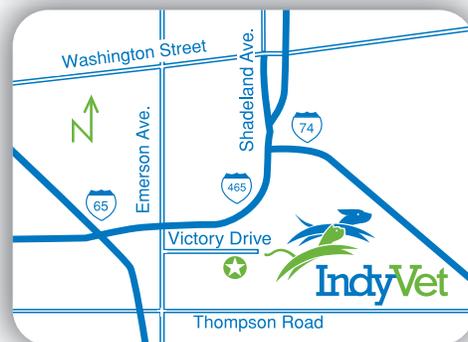
Upon arrival, the doctor will review your records, take a complete history and perform a detailed examination. These steps become the basis for your pet's diagnostic work-up and treatment.

Our dedicated staff of doctors and veterinary technicians work around the clock monitoring, treating, and caring for your pet.

Communication at our hospital is ongoing, with daily updates to the pet owner and referring veterinarian.

Upon discharge, a detailed synopsis of every case is sent to your veterinarian, along with a copy of your pet's discharge instructions, laboratory work and radiographs.

The information we provide you and your veterinarian will ensure the best possible care after your pet goes home.



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