

Is homeopathy recognised and regulated?

Homeopathy is not currently subject to statutory regulation but it is illegal for anyone other than a veterinary surgeon to treat animals, whether homeopathically or otherwise (although owners can treat their own animals if they wish). All veterinary members of the Faculty of Homeopathy are also members of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons and so are subject to the regulations of both the Faculty and the RCVS. The most qualified homeopathic vets have passed the Faculty of Homeopathy Membership examination.

Wendy McGrandles passed the Faculty Membership exam in 2005 and now takes referral cases for homeopathy.

If you are interested in homeopathy or an integrated approach to your pet's health please contact reception for more information.



The British Association of Homeopathic

Veterinary Surgeons was formed in 1982 to advance the understanding, knowledge and practice of homeopathy. It aims to stimulate professional awareness of homeopathy and to encourage and provide for the training of veterinary surgeons in the practice of homeopathy. As a service to animal owners, the BAHVS will provide details of veterinary surgeons with the homeopathic qualification VetMFHom (Veterinary Member of the Faculty of Homeopathy), and of others using homeopathy who have undergone some of the recognised training.

The British Academy of Veterinary Homeopathy

BAVH was established in 2013 to provide training in the theory and use of homeopathy by Veterinary Surgeons and Veterinary Nurse within the context of veterinary practice. The e-learning course is designed to be completed in a minimum of three years although the time taken can be increased to meet individual needs.

The Faculty of Homeopathy promotes the academic and scientific development of homeopathy and ensures the highest standards in the education, training and practice of homeopathy by dental surgeons, doctors, midwives, nurses, pharmacists, podiatrists, veterinary surgeons and other statutorily registered healthcare professionals. It was incorporated by Act of Parliament in 1950.



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HOMEOPATHY

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Homeopathy for animals at Glenbrae Vet Clinic

What is Homeopathy?

Homeopathy is a system of medicine that helps the body to heal itself. It differs considerably from that of orthodox medicine. This does not mean that the two are not compatible but homeopathy does offer a very different way of understanding the process of disease and its treatment by medical means. The homeopathic method can be of value across a whole spectrum of disease either on its own or in complement with other therapies.

A veterinary homeopathic consultation focuses on the whole animal not just the symptoms being displayed. This means that each treatment like each animal is unique. Homeopathy works on the principle of using like to cure like, in other words it treats an illness with medicine made from a substance that would provoke similar symptoms in a healthy animal and in so doing stimulates the body's own natural healing process. As homeopathy is such a gentle therapy all animals can benefit.



What sort of conditions can homeopathy treat?

Most illnesses in animals will respond to homeopathic medicines and some can be treated solely with homeopathy. Conditions that often respond well include atopic dermatitis, allergies, arthritis, gastro-intestinal problems, musculo-skeletal conditions, behavioural problems, ageing conditions and cancer.

What is a homeopathic medicine?

Homeopathic medicines are derived from natural substances including plants and minerals. They are prepared in licensed laboratories under strict control and can be given in tablet, powder or liquid form. First aid remedies are available at pharmacies and health food shops but more complicated chronic conditions require a homeopathic vet to advise on correct treatment.



Is homeopathy safe?

Yes. This is because homeopathic medicines are made from a small amount of the active ingredient using a process of dilution and succession (vigorous shaking). Unlike some conventional drugs homeopathic medicines are non-addictive and have no dangerous side effects.



What does treatment involve?

A homeopathic consultation is a lot longer than the usual veterinary consultation and you the owner play a very important part in the process. Firstly you will be sent a questionnaire to complete and the first consultation normally lasts 45-60 minutes. A follow up consultation is usually 30 minutes and the number of follow ups depends on the animal's condition being treated. You will be asked a whole range of questions about your pet including personality, behaviour and the effects of external stimuli such as the weather, time of day and diet. Only when a complete picture of the animal has been established can the correct homeopathic medicine be prescribed.