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Veterinary Osteoarthritis Alliance

**Practice Accreditation
Pack**



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Our vision

The Veterinary Osteoarthritis Alliance (VOA) is a not-for-profit organisation, which strives to improve the management of osteoarthritis in animals.

The Board and Panel of the VOA, represents experts from the field of veterinary surgery, nursing, physiotherapy, alternative therapies, research, and academia. The team are committed to improving the diagnosis and management of osteoarthritis in animals.

Education and information are key to understanding and developing your practice's approach to osteoarthritis.

Practice Affiliation shows your commitment to diagnosing and managing osteoarthritis in your patients. The practice should be able to demonstrate evidence of additional learning, case activity and good practice, to achieve affiliation.

This pack will guide you through the process.



Criteria on how to achieve VOA Practice Accreditation

Evidence of learning

At least two members of the team* will need to have achieved their Blue Paw Award, one member must be a veterinary surgeon
CPD log – At least 10 hours for vets, 5 hrs for nurses and therapists per annum, with an OA focus

Evidence of set up, preparation & training

Demonstrate that you hold regular OA clinics in practice
Demonstrate internal training on OA management for the team
How we Manage OA report

Evidence of case activity & good practice

Demonstrate using 3 Case Reports that a full orthopaedic exam and assessment is carried out for all OA patients
A multimodal approach for OA management
Patients are seen back at suitable intervals

Evidence of diverse skills in physical rehabilitation & management

Demonstrate that you discuss with clients the benefits of rehabilitation therapy

Evidence of appropriate investigational capabilities

Demonstrate that your practice has used a suitable diagnostic method to assist with the diagnosis of OA. Demonstrate this in your case presentations

Evidence of client interaction & involvement

Demonstrate that your clients receive additional information about OA management

Evidence of assessment of outcome of cases

Demonstrate that your practice is using at least one method to measure progress of the patient.

*if single person organisation we will take this into consideration



Case Reports

To complete the how we manage OA report please include:

- Information about diagnostics
- The different OA Clinics you run
- Owner information
- Different treatment options
- Any other general information

To complete the diagnostic methods include at least one of:

- Visual gait analysis
- Clinical examination
- Radiography
- Ultrasound
- CT
- Arthroscopy

Demonstrate use of at least one method of measuring progress:

- Visual gait analysis
- Clinical examination
- Clinical metrology instruments (CMLs) e.g. pain score, lameness core
- Owner feedback
- Stance analysis
- Pressure mat analysis
- Force plate analysis
- Goniometry

Evidence of Learning

CPD Log



Practice Criteria:

At least 10 hours of CPD with an OA focus for vets, 5 hours for nurses and therapists. This must be geared to increase your knowledge and understanding of osteoarthritis.

To log your OA CPD, use the RCVS 1CPD App or Website.

How we manage OA



Describe how your practice is organised to see and deal with OA cases

Describe your Diagnostic Approach. List Diagnostic Methods commonly used in the OA clinic

List the methods you use for internal training of your staff for OA clinics

**List how you communicate with clients
Attach some examples of client communication**

Describe how you measure outcome of management in your patients

Case Report 1



Case Details	Breed	Age Sex	Weight
	Visit Date	Visit Date	Visit Date
Problem Outline			
Joint(s) involved and grade			
Assessments/ Investigations Include any measurements			
Priorities for Management			
Management Summary			
Better / Same/ Worse			
Next Visit			
Comments			

Case Report 2



Case Details	Breed	Age Sex	Weight
	Visit Date	Visit Date	Visit Date
Problem Outline			
Joint(s) involved and grade			
Assessments/ Investigations Include any measurements			
Priorities for Management			
Management Summary			
Better / Same/ Worse			
Next Visit			
Comments			

Case Report 3



Case Details	Breed	Age Sex	Weight
	Visit Date	Visit Date	Visit Date
Problem Outline			
Joint(s) involved and grade			
Assessments/ Investigations Include any measurements			
Priorities for Management			
Management Summary			
Better / Same/ Worse			
Next Visit			
Comments			

Case Log

OA Case Log:

Practice Name:



Case Number	Breed	Joints Involved	Date of 1st visit	Date of 2nd visit	Date of 3rd visit	Date of 4th Visit

Notes



Any other supporting information



Case Report Example

Case Details		Breed Labradoodle	Age 12 years Sex FN	Weight - 26kg BCS 5/9
		Visit Date: 19/2/21	Visit Date: 19/3/21	Visit Date: 16/4/21
Problem Outline		Persistent RF lameness especially marked on rising and post rest. Owner feels dog is in pain. Problems with various NSAIDs . Now on half dose Onsior plus Gabapentin		
Joint(s) involved and grade		R Shoulder – Grade 3 R Hip – Grade 3	as before	as before
Assessments/ Investigations Include any measurements		Clinical – pain on manipulation of both shoulder and hip. Radiographs confirm OA Grades	Owner reports much better and no GI problems. Still stiff when rising	No lameness or stiffness. No Galliprant used. No pain on shoulder manipulation
Priorities for Management		Chronic pain control avoiding complications seen previously Owner concerns about Gabapentin making dog sleep	Chronic Pain. Improve mobility	Aim for control and maintenance. Chronic pain management plan plus return activity to normal levels
Management Summary		Introduce Galliprant . Withdraw gabapentin. Introduce omega 3 (Yumove). Restrict exercise. Joint mobilisations shoulder	Introduce Librela injection. Gradually reduce Galliprant. Continue Yumove Continue joint mobilisations. Increase exercise levels	Continue monthly Librela course. Continue Yumove. Gradual return to normal activity with care
Progress Better / Same/		Aim.OA Pain Score =55	Better Pain Score= 45 .	Better . Pain Score = 29



Submission

To submit your evidence please email the completed forms
and payment to info@vet-oa.com