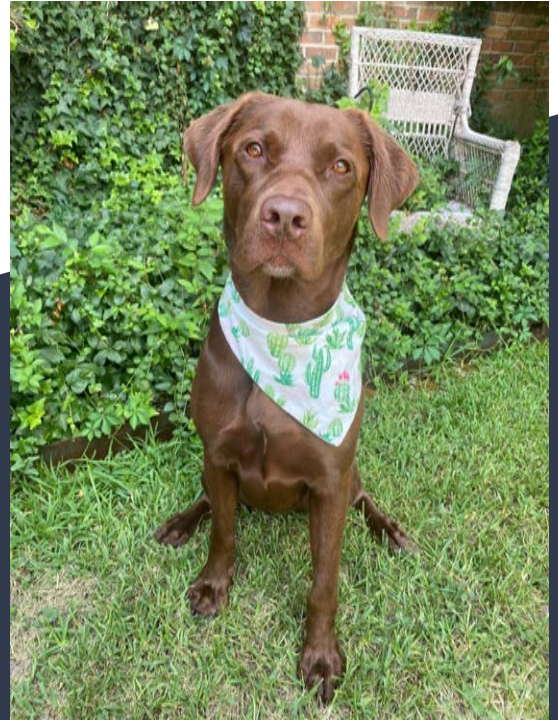




I

# Veterinary Physical Therapy



# Why?

Physical therapy for animals is actually pretty similar to physical therapy for people



## Benefits of Physical Therapy:

- Improve range of motion
- Decrease pain
- Lose weight or exercise
- Shorter healing time
- Maintain or gain muscle mass

# Who?

There are tons of pets that could benefit from some physical rehab

- Pets with Osteoarthritis
- Post-Operative patients
- Pets with neurologic disease
- Conditioning and strength management
- Pets that need to lose some weight



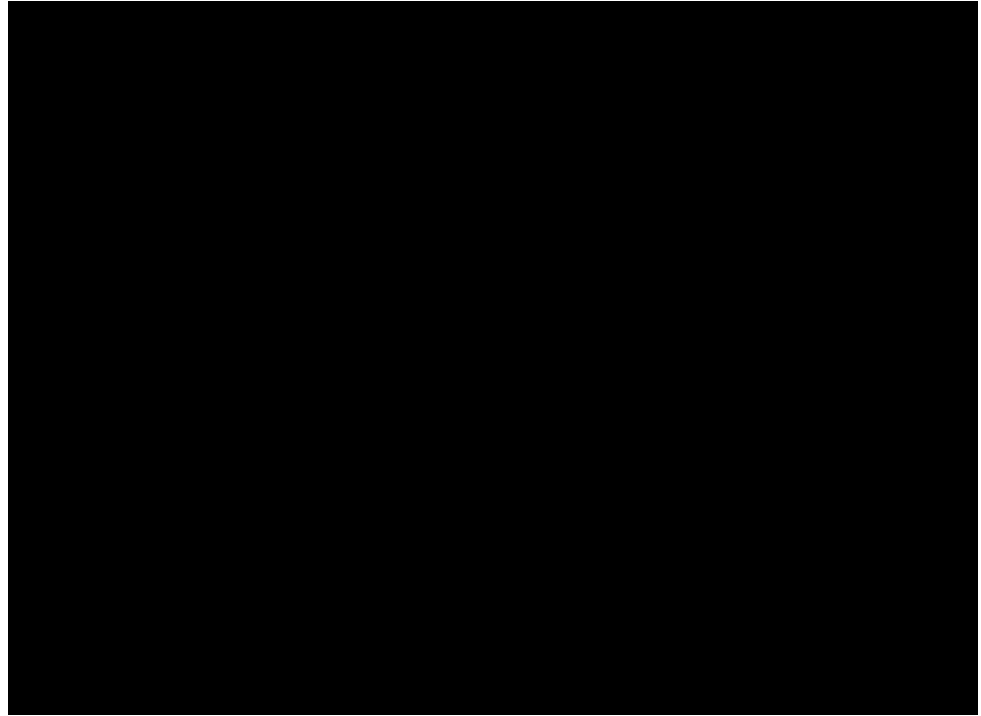
# How?

There are quite a few different modalities that we can use for rehabilitation

- Heat or cold therapy
- Massage therapy
- Therapeutic laser
- Passive or active range of motion
- Water or land treadmill
- Pole weaving
- Cavalettis
- SO many more!

# Forelimb Passive Range of Motion (PROM)

We can isolate one joint at a time to flex and extend it in a controlled way so that we can slowly increase their range of motion





# Pole Weaving



Weaving back and forth helps with coordination and is very helpful in our patients with neurologic symptoms

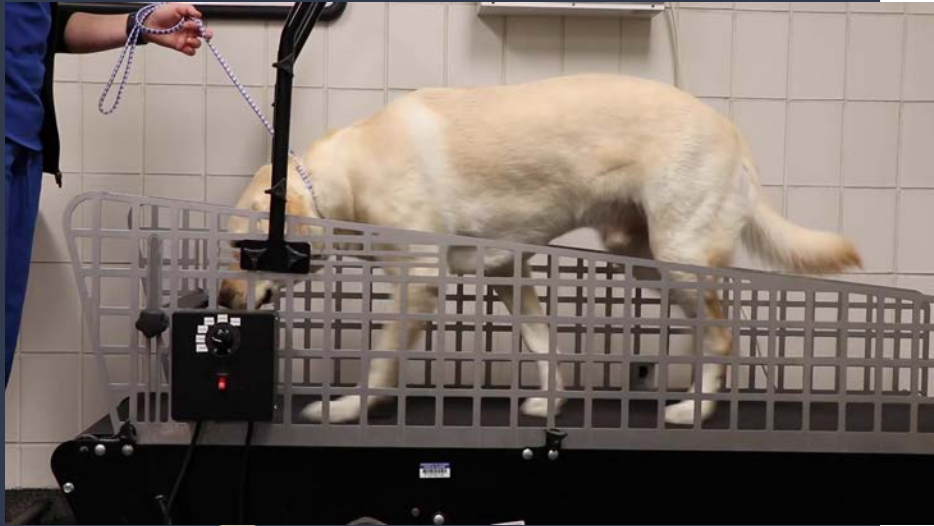
# Cavalettis



As the patient steps up over each hurdle, they are lengthening their stride and increasing the range of motion of the joints in their legs



# Land Treadmill



The treadmill is a great way to exercise a patient in a controlled manner. We can also easily observe the way they are walking/running to see if they are limping.

# Water Treadmill

The addition of water takes a lot of pressure off the joints as the patient is walking. This is great for overweight pets or older patients with arthritis.

# Water Treadmill

We can also change the height of the water to increase or decrease the resistance our patient feels as they walk

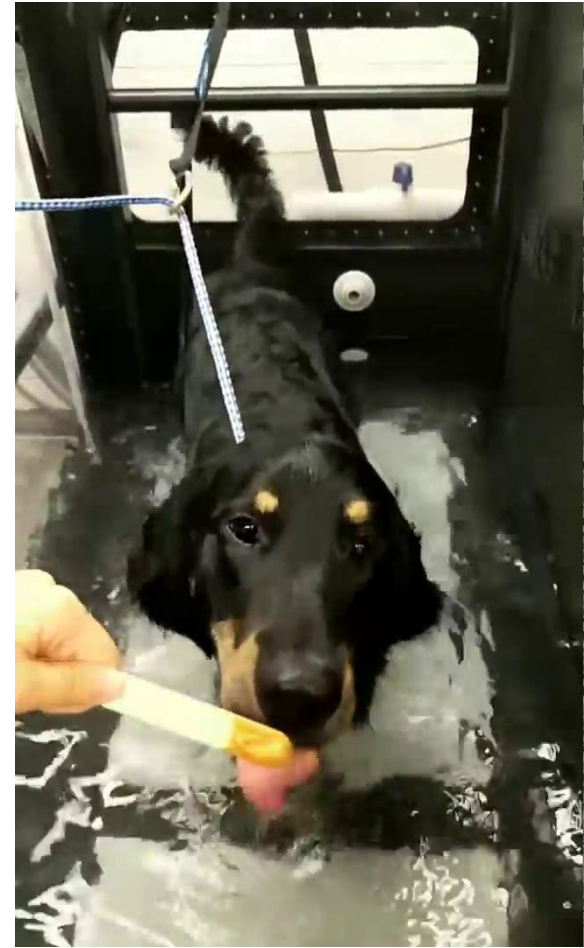
# “My dog hates the water”

Surprisingly, even dogs that hate the water do very well on the water treadmill! But if they need a little distraction, we can always encourage them with a toy.



What if my dog  
doesn't like to play  
ball?

No problem! We  
can use treats or  
some peanut  
butter to  
motivate them to  
walk



What about cats?

Yes! The water treadmill is a great option for the right cat.





# We hope you enjoyed learning about another area of veterinary medicine!

We look forward to seeing you in person next year