

Laser Therapy Reduces Pain and Speeds Healing

Hershire Animal Hospital is excited to offer our clients Companion Laser Therapy. Laser therapy provides a non-invasive, pain-free, surgery-free, drug-free treatment which is used to treat a variety of conditions and can be performed in conjunction with existing treatment protocols. Relief and/or improvement is often noticed within hours depending on the condition and your pet's response. Whether your pet is rehabilitating from trauma or injury, healing from wounds, or simply aging, your companion can benefit from this innovative approach to treating pain.

Applications for laser therapy include:

- *Treatment of arthritis, degenerative joint disease, or hip dysplasia*
- *General pain management (sprains, strains, and stiffness)*
- *Post-surgery pain (spays, neuters, declaws, and other surgeries)*
- *Skin problems (hot spots, lick granulomas, infections)*
- *Dental procedures*
- *Fractures and wounds (bites, abrasions, and lesions)*
- *Ear infections*

How does it work?

Laser therapy stimulates the body to heal from within. Non-thermal photons of light are administered to the body for about 3 to 8 minutes and absorbed by the injured cells. The cells are then stimulated and respond with a higher rate of metabolism. This results in relief from pain, increased circulation, reduced inflammation, and an acceleration of the healing process.

What can my pet expect during a laser therapy treatment session?

Simply put, it provides relief. As the laser is administered, your pet will relax and enjoy the treatment. The almost immediate relief of pain will allow your pet to be comfortable and any anxiety that your pet initially experiences will dissipate.

Occasionally, angry cats will start to purr and canine companions will actually fall asleep during their therapy session. Frequently, after therapy, we hear: "He's acting

like a puppy again” or “She can actually jump onto the chair again.” Pain relief is provided in just a few minutes of therapy and that alone improves the quality of life for your companion.

What are the signs that my pet can benefit from Companion Laser Therapy?

Many of our laser therapy patients are older animals with musculoskeletal ailments.

Some signs that your senior companion is experiencing pain or discomfort are:

- Abnormal sitting or lying posture*
- Circling multiple times before lying down*
- Restlessness*
- Whining, groaning or other vocalizations*
- Limping, unable to get up or lie down*
- Difficulty getting into car or down stairs*
- Lack of grooming*
- Won't wag tail*
- Licking or biting area*
- Lack of appetite*
- Trembling*

Contact our practice today to schedule an appointment or obtain additional information.