



Definition of Animal Physical Rehabilitation

Animal Physical Rehabilitation is a multidisciplinary collaborative approach to the restoration, management, enhancement and maintenance of physical function of an animal for optimal quality of life, maximized level of function, reduction of disability and pain, and prevention of injury.

Animal Physical Rehabilitation Code of Ethics

1. As a Professional..
 1. We work for the greater good of animals and their guardians.
 2. We practice in accordance to all available science and take an evidence-based approach to assessment and treatment and education.
 3. We respect the rights and dignity of all animals and individuals.
 4. We do no harm.
 5. We abide by all legal and professional responsibilities and obligations, respecting the VCPR (veterinary-client-patient relationship).
 6. We maintain and enhance our knowledge, skills and behaviours in our profession and field.
 7. We acknowledge our limitations in knowledge, skill and scope of practice and collaborate with those with the required expertise.
2. Within the field..
 1. We respect all members of the rehabilitation team in their unique areas of expertise and knowledge.
 2. We promote and engage in inter-professional collaboration in research, education and practice to improve patient wellbeing and client communication/education and to enhance our field.
 3. We engage in inclusive, truthful and respectful communication within the field.
 4. We promote unity through celebration of similar and unique professional contributions and abilities.
3. Globally..
 1. We actively collaborate to create united, consistent and truthful professional messaging to educate the public.
 2. We participate in efforts to expand the field to meet rehabilitation needs of animals and its effects on their guardians.
 3. We actively collaborate with an international network of qualified professionals to discuss and share experiences and cutting edge topics.

Core Values

- Integrity
 - Integrity is the quality of being honest and having strong moral principles in the practice of animal rehabilitation, including working within our scope of practice, collaborating as necessary, and being transparent.
- Trust
 - Trust is the firm belief in the reliability, truth and ability of the animal rehabilitation profession by the public and other professions.
- Honesty
 - Honesty is being true and transparent in our practice of animal rehabilitation, including our abilities, scope of practice and sharing of accurate and detailed patient records.
- Collaboration
 - Collaboration is working together with patients and clients, families, communities, and professionals in health and other fields to achieve shared goals. Collaboration within the animal rehabilitation team is working together, within each partner's respective role, to achieve optimal animal rehabilitation services and outcomes for patients and clients.
- Accountability
 - Accountability is the animal physical rehabilitation professional's willingness to accept and take responsibility for the diverse roles, obligations and actions and adjust behaviours accordingly to positively influence the field of animal physical rehabilitation and the community. Accountability includes honesty to and reliability within the community and the field of animal physical rehabilitation.
- Respect
 - Respect is having due regard for the rights and dignity of the animals, owners, and the public, as well as recognise each other's qualities, abilities and achievements, and do not seek to undermine other professionals.
- Compassion
 - Compassion is our ability as Rehabilitation professionals to take the perspective and to recognise the emotions and concerns of patients, clients and colleagues, and acting on the desire to help by being supportive and encouraging.
- Commitment to excellence
 - Commitment to excellence in animal physical rehabilitation requires constant adaptation, innovation and vigilance in order to achieve successfully, through practicing evidence based medicine, maintaining high standards and demonstrating high level of education and practice.
- Beneficence
 - Beneficence refers to the obligation of the animal physical rehabilitation professional to act to promote the well-being of patients, clients and colleagues.