



Medical Acupuncture for Veterinarians

Overview & Syllabus

Small Animal and Large Animal Tracks

In-Person or Distance Learning Hands-on Practice

Foundations • Treatment Approaches • Clinical Intensive





Medical Acupuncture for Veterinarians

General Overview

The Medical Acupuncture for Veterinarians (MAV) Certification Program educates veterinarians on the principles and practices of integrative neuromodulation, anatomically informed myofascial palpation, and rational treatment strategies for large and small animals.

Founded in 1998 by Narda G. Robinson, DO, DVM, MS, FAAMA, MAV was the first to dispel myth and magic in acupuncture, replacing folkloric ideas about “chi” with neurophysiologic explanations and researched-backed techniques.

Goals

- Improve clinical outcomes by including medical acupuncture as first-line care.
- Elevate practice standards with better exams and more effective, nonsurgical interventions.
- Deepen awareness of how and where patients experience pain and dysfunction.
- Attain better results by encouraging, instead of suppressing, endogenous self-reparative processes.

Objectives

- Describe the neural, myofascial, and vascular anatomic aspects of acupuncture points.
- Identify pain and dysfunction through systematic observation and astute myofascial palpation.
- Design treatment protocols that restore healthy nervous system function and relax myofascia.
- Implement techniques that are gentle, safe, and restorative.

Registration fees for each section if purchased separately:

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| • Section I, Foundations | \$2750 |
| • Section II, Treatments | \$2750 |
| • Section III, Clinical Intensive | \$2750 (Select in-person or distance-learning format.) |

Registration fees if bundled: **\$7500** (SAVES \$750)

Veterinary students receive 35% discount. Email info@curacore.org to verify status for discount code.

Program Overview

This continuing education program presents a scientific, anatomy-based approach to veterinary medical acupuncture and integrative neuromodulation. Learners complete foundational instruction, select a Small Animal or Large Animal treatment track, and complete either an onsite or online clinical intensive.

Learning Outcomes

- Explain the neuroanatomic, myofascial, and vascular foundations of medical acupuncture.
- Identify indications, precautions, and safety considerations for acupuncture and related techniques.
- Locate clinically relevant acupuncture points using anatomic landmarks.
- Develop evidence-informed treatment approaches for common pain, neurologic, musculoskeletal, and internal medical presentations.
- Apply safe needling, electroacupuncture, palpation, and neuromodulation treatments to live animals within the selected animal track.
- Integrate assessment findings into a documented clinical plan and final case report.

Intended Audience and Prerequisites

This program is designed for veterinarians and veterinary students seeking formal education in medical acupuncture.

Course Delivery and Participation

- Complete all assigned foundational and track-specific learning activities.
- Participate in required live, recorded, online, or onsite components associated with the selected pathway.
- Engage in supervised practice and discussion in a professional, safety-focused manner.
- Meet published attendance, participation, and submission deadlines.

Assessment and Completion

Continuing education credit and a certificate of completion are awarded only after all published program requirements have been satisfied.

These requirements include successful completion of the following:

- **All online modules and one Clinical Intensive.**
- A **point-finding examination** with a MAV instructor and a live animal. The format can be onsite or online and typically takes place during the in-person Clinical Intensive or at the end of the online version. The test involves finding 12 points on the animal and stating which nerve supplies that point; it typically takes 5-10 minutes to complete.
- A **case report** involving three treatments with an animal that does not belong to the student. The case report is limited to four typed pages in length and describes the chief complaint, history, and myofascial and brief neurologic evaluation of the patient. The report includes a section on differential diagnostic considerations, putative or definitive diagnosis, medical decision-making, and treatment specifics. Details on the format and number of required videos and photos of the patient's movement in two directions as well as the treatment will be provided upon request. A final section describes outcomes and reflections as well as a brief list of related and published research citations. **NOTE: The media requirement is non-negotiable. We understand that the caregivers of celebrity horses and royal felines may not allow media to be recorded or sign the client release allowing for case reports to be used in teaching or for other purposes. In these**

instances, a different animal should be chosen for the case report, as the case report will not be accepted without accompanying and good quality media. No case report = No certification.

Required Materials and Technology

- Reliable internet access and a device capable of viewing course media and joining live online sessions.
- Access to the designated learning platform and current course materials.
- Adjunctive instructional material for the program will be provided. Each student receives a Mini Manual relevant to their track (i.e., Small or Large Animal) that they may keep. Additional supplies depend on the track and format of the chosen Clinical Intensive.
- A suitable environment for completing assessments and participating in live instruction.

Learner Expectations and Professional Conduct

Learners are expected to a) communicate respectfully, b) protect client and animal volunteer confidentiality during the Clinical Intensive, c) refrain from audio or video recording during in-person Clinical Intensives, d) follow instructor safety guidance, and e) practice only within applicable legal and professional standards. Clinical examples, images, recordings, and course resources should not be shared outside the program without prior authorization.



Accessibility and Accommodations

Learners who need an accommodation should contact the program team as early as possible. Requests are handled in accordance with applicable requirements and available program procedures.

Academic Integrity

Submitted assessments and case work must reflect the learner's own work. Misrepresentation, unauthorized assistance, or reuse of another person's work may affect successful completion.

Program Support and Contact Information

For registration, scheduling, technical support, accommodations, completion requirements, or continuing education documentation, contact the CuraCore VET program team at info@curacore.org.



Section I: Foundations (30 CE Hours, Small and Large Animal)

- Neural, myofascial, and vascular relationships of acupuncture points and channels.
- Acupuncture safety and how to avoid adverse outcomes.
- The central, peripheral, and autonomic nervous systems' response to acupuncture.
- How medical acupuncture approaches identify and alleviate myofascial dysfunction.
- Managing visceral pain with medical acupuncture.
- Neuromodulation for neuropathic pain and other cranial nerve problems.
- Why science and why not myths and magic in veterinary acupuncture.

Section II: Treatment Approaches Small Animal or Large Animal (30 CE Hours Each)

Small Animal Track	Large Animal Track
• Basics of dry needling, acupuncture point activation, and electroacupuncture. • Clinical applications and case-based treatments for a wide array of internal medical, musculoskeletal, neurologic, and pain problems. • Medical Acupuncture and Integrative Neuromodulation®, "The MAIN Approach". • Myofascial palpation instruction. • Review of acupuncture point locations and anatomic associations.	• Equine acupuncture needling basics and electroacupuncture. • Large animal acupuncture for farm animal and equine practice. • Medical Acupuncture and Integrative Neuromodulation®, "The MAIN Approach". • Observation of equine movement and physical medicine evaluations, including myofascial palpation. • Review of equine acupuncture point locations, and clinical applications.



Option A Section III: Treatment Approaches (24-28 CE Hours, Onsite Clinical Intensive)

- 3-3.5 days of in-person hands-on instruction, depending on MAV track and location.
- Live or online point-finding examination.
- Case report compilation and review.
- Medical massage, basic concepts (optional, online).
- Photomedicine overview (optional, online).
- Large Animal Clinical Intensive includes optional hands-on for farm animal treatment techniques.

Option B Section III: Treatment Approaches (48 CE Hours, Online Clinical Intensive)

- Online modules with live (synchronous) or recorded (asynchronous) discussion and assessments
- Foundational topics include point-finding, skills-building treatment techniques, and electroacupuncture.
- Live or recorded sessions on myofascial evaluation, movement evaluation, and live patient session.
- Live, online point-finding examination.
- Case report compilation and review.
- Medical massage, basic concepts (optional, online).
- Photomedicine overview (optional, online).

