

What is Physiotherapy?

Physiotherapy involves the use of land and water-based therapies to help regain and maintain your pet's mobility and flexibility. It is a gentle, non-invasive treatment for pets. Our rehabilitation cabin is set apart from the main hospital allowing us to create a calmer environment for the animals.

How Physiotherapy can help

- Promote soft tissue, bone and nerve repair
- Improve muscle function and strength
- Regain or maintain joint flexibility
- Recover correct movement
- Help manage pain
- Improve core stability and co-ordination
- Provide post-operation rehabilitation



'Cubby' in for posture improvement work after spinal surgery

What's involved?

Treatments consist of a varied approach with the use of:

- Manual therapies: Massage, Stretching, Joint mobilisation, etc
- Electrotherapies: Pulsed Magnetic Therapy, Laser, Ultrasound
- Hydrotherapy – Water Treadmill
- Cryotherapy (hot and cold therapy)
- Home-based exercise
- Weight management



'Alfie' enjoying his pulsed magnetic therapy for muscle tension

Conditions that can benefit

- Joint disease: E.g Hip/Elbow Dysplasia, Cruciate Disease
- Osteoarthritis
- Soft tissue injuries
- Wounds
- After surgery: Orthopaedic / Neurological
- Obesity
- Athletic performance

What is Hydrotherapy?

Hydrotherapy, using the water treadmill, involves controlled therapeutic exercise in an environment of varying buoyancy to encourage animals to:

- Bear weight evenly
- Move correctly
- Build muscle
- Gain greater joint mobility
- Improve fitness

The treadmill gives more control over exercise exertion, allowing for specific joints or muscles to be targeted. It can be adjusted to increase or reduce difficulty depending on your pet's needs. Short interval training methods are applied.



'Kobi' working hard to build muscle and manage his hip dysplasia

What to Expect?

The initial appointment is 90 minutes. This involves a full assessment of your pet's movement, musculature and body condition. A treatment plan is then tailored for your pet, including a home exercise program.

Follow-up appointments are usually 60 minutes. Where hydrotherapy is carried out, towels are provided. Owners participate throughout the treatments.

The number of appointments required varies greatly depending on your pet's condition. This, along with treatment expectations and recovery time, will be discussed at the first appointment.

Pets should be toileted before arrival but not over-exercised.

Please arrive in plenty of time before your appointment. On arrival, please report to reception in the hospital main building.

Dogs that are unwell and bitches in season may not be allowed in the water treadmill. If in doubt, please phone to discuss.

Consultations are by appointment only and can be booked through the main reception. Please phone as soon as possible if you require to reschedule.

Payment in full will be requested after each appointment. If you have pet insurance, please bring a claim form with you.

About Jayne

Jayne joined the Broadleys team as our veterinary physiotherapist in 2016 after qualifying in 2011. She previously operated a freelance physiotherapy service treating a wide variety of large and small animal cases. The physiotherapy and hydrotherapy experience Jayne has accumulated is welcomed by us at Broadleys, allowing us to provide a comprehensive referral service.



**Jayne Faulkner Bsc, AdvCertVetPhys, MIRVAP
Veterinary Physiotherapist**

Referral to the service

To have your pet referred to our physiotherapy service, please speak with your veterinary surgeon as we can only accept direct referrals. These can either be directly through Broadleys itself, or from another veterinary practice.

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Broadleys Veterinary Hospital



Physiotherapy Referral Service