

How do I find a homeopathic vet?

The **British Homeopathic Association** publishes a list of homeopathic vets at www.britishhomeopathic.org – click on Getting Treatment. All of the vets on this list are members of the Faculty of Homeopathy and Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons. Alternatively, call the British Homeopathic Association on 01582 408675 to find a homeopathic vet near you.

The **British Association of Homeopathic Veterinary Surgeons** can also provide details of vets practising homeopathy. Visit www.bahvs.com

Getting your animal referred

If your animal is already registered at a veterinary practice you will need to ask your vet for a referral; otherwise you can make an appointment with the homeopathic vet directly. The RCVS ethic is that no vet can refuse a client a referral if the client requests it, regardless of his or her own view of homeopathy. The referring vet must share any relevant information about your animal with the homeopathic vet.

What qualifications should I look for?

The most qualified homeopathic vets have passed the Faculty of Homeopathy's Membership exam and can be identified by the letters VetMFHom after their names. These vets are competent in both acute and chronic cases and many use homeopathy as the main therapeutic approach in their practices. The letters VetFFHom indicate Fellowship of the Faculty of Homeopathy – these members have attained the VetMFHom and in addition have made a substantial contribution to homeopathy through practice, research or teaching.

Other vets are Licensed Associates of the Faculty of Homeopathy and have the letters LFHom(Vet) after their names. This means they have achieved a basic level of training in homeopathy.

Find out more... and join the BHA

Join the growing number of people who support homeopathy by becoming a friend of the British Homeopathic Association. To find out more go to www.britishhomeopathic.org

The BHA works closely with statutorily registered healthcare professionals who incorporate homeopathy into their everyday practice, as members of the Faculty of Homeopathy. We fund education and research and lobby for patient access to homeopathy.

As a friend you will receive our popular magazine *Health and Homeopathy*, as well as invitations to Friends' events and information about campaigns.

For a free information pack call 01582 408675 or email info@britishhomeopathic.org



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Homeopathy for animals

getting treatment for your pets



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Homeopathy is a system of medicine that is based on the principle of using 'like to cure like'. In other words, a substance taken in small amounts will cure the same symptoms it causes if it was taken in large amounts. Each treatment, like each animal, is unique because homeopathic medicines are selected on the basis of all aspects of the patient as well as the presenting symptoms.

“When a vet has difficulty in curing a skin condition he usually starts to look at the skin in greater detail. The vet with homeopathic training will stand back and look at the patient as a whole, as well as the skin, knowing that the mental state of the animal can be the true cause of the visible skin trouble, and will attempt to build that into the prescription.”

John Hoare BVSc MRCVS VetMFHom, homeopathic vet, Dorset

What is homeopathy used for?

Owners of animals with a wide range of illnesses have reported an improvement in their pet's health after homeopathic treatment.

Conditions commonly seen by homeopathic vets include arthritis, atopic dermatitis (eczema), lameness, epilepsy, diarrhoea, respiratory problems, aggression, fear, pruritus (itching), hyperthyroid and kidney failure.

A veterinary surgeon trained in homeopathy will know when it is most effective to use homeopathic medicine, conventional medicine or a combination of both. Homeopathy can be used equally well for both minor conditions and for more chronic problems when prolonged treatment may be required.

What is a homeopathic medicine?

Homeopathic medicines are derived from natural substances, including plants and minerals. They are prepared in licensed laboratories under strict control and can be given in tablet, granule or liquid form.

Is homeopathy safe?

Yes. Homeopathic medicines are made from a very small amount of the active ingredient using a process of dilution and succussion (vigorous shaking). Two hundred years of practice, research and patient experience have proved the safety of this gentle system of medicine for both people and animals.

What does treatment involve?

A homeopathic consultation is very different from a usual veterinary consultation. You will be asked about the current illness, any past illnesses, behavioural characteristics and the effect of external factors on your animal such as the weather, the time of day and diet.

As a result the consultation is usually longer than a typical veterinary consultation. Only when a complete picture of your animal has been established can the correct homeopathic medicine be prescribed.

Is it officially recognised and regulated?

The Faculty of Homeopathy ensures the highest standards in the teaching and practice of homeopathy by statutorily registered healthcare professionals.

Members of the Faculty are doctors, dentists, nurses, midwives, pharmacists, podiatrists, osteopaths and vets who are all regulated by their professional body – for example, the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS).

Veterinary members of the Faculty of Homeopathy are therefore subject to the regulations of both the Faculty and the RCVS.

It is illegal for anyone other than a veterinary surgeon to treat animals, homeopathically or otherwise (although owners can treat their own animals if they wish).