

Nontraditional Therapies (Traditional Chinese Veterinary Medicine and Chiropractic) in Exotic Animals



Jessica A. Marziani, DVM, CVA, CVC, CCRT

KEYWORDS

- Nontraditional therapies • Traditional Chinese Veterinary Medicine • Acupuncture
- Chiropractic • Complementary therapies • Alternative therapies
- Integrative therapies

KEY POINTS

- Nontraditional therapies can be used in conjunction with conventional Western therapies to enhance patient outcome.
- Nontraditional therapies are often sought out by exotic pet owners; therefore, overall understanding is important for general practitioners.
- Exotic animal species can benefit from the application of nontraditional therapies.
- Traditional Chinese Veterinary Medicine is tailored to the individual patient to optimize health.
- Chiropractic care can be used as preventative form of treatment and for chronic conditions.

INTRODUCTION

In the broadest definition, nontraditional therapies are therapies that currently are not conventionally used in Western practice. Other terms, such as alternative, integrative, and complementary, are commonly used to categorize nontraditional therapies. However, no matter what nomenclature is used, all are considered the practice of veterinary medicine.¹

According to the National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health, a division of the National Institute of Health (NIH), approximately 38% of adults in 2007 were using some sort of complementary therapy.² Those same adults may seek similar complementary therapies for their pets. Therefore, even if complementary therapies are not a core part of a veterinarian's skill set, it is still prudent to be grounded in

CARE Veterinary Services PLLC, PO Box 132082, Houston, TX 77219, USA

E-mail address: marzianidvm@gmail.com

Vet Clin Exot Anim 21 (2018) 511–528

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cvex.2018.01.013>

1094-9194/18/© 2018 Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

vetexotic.theclinics.com

general knowledge, treatment options, and how and when nontraditional therapies can be used effectively.

This general working knowledge of the subject will help veterinarians better educate clients in nontraditional therapies. Without a referral from their veterinarian, clients may research nontraditional therapies on their own if they believe that the treatments will be beneficial. A recent survey of competitive horse riders and trainers showed that of the 37% of the respondents that were seeking nontraditional therapies for their horses, only 7% were doing so in collaboration with their veterinarian.³

Practitioners who integrate nontraditional therapies and Western medicine can take advantage of the strengths of each. This integration of methodologies can deliver overall better results than Western medicine or nontraditional therapies alone. A working knowledge of nontraditional therapies and open dialogue can also enhance the veterinarian-owner relationship.

This article is intended to expose the general practitioner to the 2 most common and sought out nontraditional therapies: Traditional Chinese Veterinary Medicine (TCVM) and chiropractic treatments. The descriptions of each are intended to provide a basic understanding of what additional therapies are available and how they can be effectively utilized. The article is not intended to train the general practitioner on how to perform these therapies. Attending a specialized training course is highly recommended. These are listed in [Table 1](#). Alternatively, practitioners who are trained in nontraditional therapies but have not practiced on exotic animals will also find this article useful as a reference for species comparisons and differences.

INTRODUCTION TO TRADITIONAL CHINESE VETERINARY MEDICINE

Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) used in Western culture is relatively new. TCM was first introduced to the United States when an aide to President Nixon became ill while Nixon was visiting China in the 1970s. This aide was treated successfully with TCM and thus TCM was prominently introduced to Western culture. Because it

Table 1 Certification training opportunities	
TCVM	Chiropractic
Chi Institute www.tcvm.com (800) 860-1543	Healing Oasis Wellness Center www.healingoasis.edu (262) 898-1680
International Veterinary Acupuncture Society www.ivas.org (970) 266-0666	Options for Animals www.optionsforanimals.com (309) 658-2920
	Parker University https://ce.parker.edu/courses/doctor-of-chiropractic/animal-chiropractic-program/ (800) 266-4723
	Veterinary Chiropractic Learning Center (Canada) www.veterinarychiropractic.ca (519) 756-1597
	Backbone Academy for Veterinary Chiropractic and Healing Arts (Germany) www.backbone-academy.com +49-4282-590688

Disclaimer: This is not an endorsement; these are the training programs the author is aware of.

Download English Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/en/article/8486904>

Download Persian Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/article/8486904>

[Daneshyari.com](https://daneshyari.com)