

1) Is the province receptive to practitioners in any of the modalities to be certified outside of being a veterinarian or Animal Health Technician (AHT) (i.e.: can Doctors of Chiropractic perform on animals, can a Naturopathic doctor conduct an acupuncture treatment, could a provincially certified massage practitioner practice on an animal, could a provincially licensed physio therapist develop a rehabilitation program for an animal using physio techniques)

We have a few veterinarians who practice alternative therapies within their practice. There is nothing in our Act specifically addressing alternative therapies. In relation to non veterinary practitioners doing alternative therapies on animals, is generally not allowed. We do have an agreement with one group the chiropractors allowing working with animals only when the chiropractor works under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian of Manitoba.

2) What are some of the requirements of education (ie. required class room hours, hours of hands on, hours of practicum, or a combination of these) the Veterinarian Association (or individual veterinarian) would take into consideration while looking at a modality or practitioner?

The province has not established a standard for the veterinarians who use alternative therapies in their practice nor chiropractors who work under the direct supervision of a licensed MVMA veterinarian.

3) Provincial Veterinary thoughts on a professional association for complimentary practitioners. What would be considered an acceptable number on annual continuing education hours for a practitioner who is a member of a professional association.

I think being a member of a professional association may have value however that value is dependent on the services and support that the professional association provides its members. (i.e membership service is regulatory or is it only members service.)

4) Vet/practitioner relationship. Should animals require written clearance for body work? Verbal clearance? Direct veterinary supervision?

Since our governing documents don't allow for non veterinarians to treat animals we don't address referrals to them. Otherwise referrals from one vet to another vet who practices alternative therapies, follow the same rules of referrals and second opinions that all vets do here in the province (i.e. dialogue between the two vets, and transference of relevant documentation from one vet to the other, and follow up plan shared between the two vets.)