Certification Requirements:

All online modules completed prior to the Clinical Intensive.

Passing grade on all assessments (= 70% or higher).

Successful completion of onsite Clinical Intensive.

Case report(s) accepted and approved by Dr. Robinson.

106.5 Hours Online/Onsite CE

SEE WEBSITE FOR ADDITIONAL REGISTRATION INFORMATION AND COURSE FEES
Presented and directed by Narda G. Robinson, DO, DVM, MS, FAAMA
Medical Acupuncture for Veterinarians (MAV) is the leading course for comprehensive, critically evaluated, scientifically based, and evidence-informed instruction in veterinary medical acupuncture and its related techniques: photomedicine and massage.

Our highly acclaimed curriculum guides students through the basic science of acupuncture, neurophysiology, and neuromodulation.

We emphasize the central significance of myofascial palpation as an indicator of pain and dysfunction. Learn how to appropriately implement Medical Acupuncture and Integrative Neuromodulation® (MAIN) techniques for the following conditions:

• Disc disease
• Spinal cord injury
• Back and neck pain
• Digestive disorders
• Cranial and peripheral neuropathies
• Lameness
• Voiding dysfunction
• Arthritis
• Athletic performance
• Immune dysfunction
• Reproductive disorders
• Post-surgical problems
• Recovery following trauma
• Dermatologic issues
• Ocular pain
• Cancer-related problems
• Geriatric problems
• Rehabilitation
• And much more!

WHERE VETERINARY MEDICAL ACUPUNCTURE BEGAN. MORE THAN 20 YEARS AGO.

ADMISSION ELIGIBILITY - Registrants must be licensed veterinarians, or hold an equivalent credential such as serving as faculty in a veterinary college, or a third- or fourth-year veterinary student with written permission from their college dean’s office.
WHAT MAKES MEDICAL ACUPUNCTURE FOR VETERINARIANS THE PREMIER COURSE FOR VETERINARIANS?

- We have been enriching and refining our curriculum in scientific, evidence-based acupuncture for over two decades.
- Our online courses include professionally created videos offered through a user-friendly and highly acclaimed learning management system.
- We encourage participants to examine patients more fully, to diagnose more accurately, and to treat patients less invasively. Better diagnoses lead to better outcomes.

10 MODULES OF MEDICAL ACUPUNCTURE FOR VETERINARIANS

Module 1. Overview of Medical Acupuncture and Related Techniques (5hr, 36min)

- Medical Acupuncture: Gain a better appreciation of its history, scope, and achievements.
- Surveying the Terrain: Learn how scientific, medical acupuncture and related techniques differ from other acupuncture approaches (Traditional Chinese Medicine, Japanese hara techniques, Korean hand acupuncture, auricular acupuncture, etc.).
- Biologic Basis of Personality: Consider the connection between genetics, behavior, and biology as seen through both ancient Chinese observations and modern medical interpretations.
- Introduction to the Channels and Points: Identify how nerves, vessels, and myofascia relate to acupuncture points and channels; explore the structure-function relationships of acupuncture points and channels.
- Neural Relationships of Points and Channels: Understand how certain acupuncture points acquired their names; list the neuroanatomic relationships of specific points that have special significance in terms of neuromodulation.
- Acupuncture Safety and the Adverse Effects of Acupuncture: Describe ways to keep patients safe. Learn to discern the difference between acceptable and unacceptable acupuncture techniques.

Module 2. Acupuncture Analgesia through Connective Tissue and Neuromodulation Effects (2hr, 49min)

- Begin with the Brain: Explain how acupuncture induces analgesia through brain-based changes.
- Brain Imaging in Health and Disease: Identify how visualizing brain activity could improve both diagnosis and treatment.
- Neuroimaging and Stimulation Studies: Outline research findings on functional brain imaging and acupuncture.
- Characterizing Acupuncture Stimuli Using Brain Imaging with fMRI - A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of the Literature: Compare and contrast fMRI studies involving acupuncture.
- Mechanisms of Acupuncture-Electroacupuncture on Persistent Pain: Identify biochemical mechanisms by which acupuncture and electroacupuncture counter nociceptive inputs through neuromodulation.

Dry Needling: A Literature Review with Implications for Clinical Practice Guidelines. Identify the research-based mechanisms and outcomes of dry needling.

Understanding Myofascial Trigger Points: Know what produces and reverses myofascial trigger points.

Using Acupuncture Analgesia in China: Gain perspective on the history and application of acupuncture in the perioperative setting in China.

Module 3. Acupuncture Neuromodulation – Updating Ancient Characterizations (4hr, 42min)

General Approaches to Neuromodulation: Develop a context for acupuncture intervention protocols, including both neuroanatomic and myofascial components.

Somatovisceral and Viscerosomatic Connections: Summarize how needling the soma impacts internal organs and how internal organ dysfunction shows up in the soma.

Cranial Nerves: Review the anatomy and physiology of the cranial nerves and how one might treat head and neck disorders through neuromodulation.

Regional Points: Group acupuncture points according to their regional distribution and learn about their utility in clinical practice.

Homeostatic Points: Identify the links between “master points” and autonomic nerve pathways.

Influential Points: Critically analyze the anatomic basis and physiologic connections of the “8 Influential Points.”

Module 4. Canine and Equine Acupuncture Point Anatomy and Physiology; Comparative Human Discussions (14hr, 19min)

Neuroanatomic and Myofascial Significance of the Twelve Paired Channels and Two Midline Pathways: Pursue an in-depth exploration of the structure: function attributes of commonly employed veterinary acupuncture points.

Equine Limb Points: Compare and contrast points on the equine limb with those on the dog and human.

Module 5. Dry Needling and Electroacupuncture (3hr)

Needling Basics: Equipment and Technical Aspects: Compare and contrast the structure of acupuncture needles.

Needle Yourself: Begin to acquire skill in inserting needles in living tissue.

What’s in a Stimulator? Key Features of Electroacupuncture Units: Become familiar with the “nuts and bolts” of electroacupuncture stimulators.

Electroacupuncture Treatment Protocols: Learn how to most effectively deliver an electroacupuncture intervention.

Module 6. Acupuncture’s Related Technique: Soft Tissue Manual Therapy / Massage (2hr, 36min)

Historical Views on Massage: Learn how massage was viewed from a medical perspective in ancient times.

Myofascial Trigger Points: Identify the inciting and maintaining features of myofascial trigger points as well as how to eliminate them.

Human Demonstration Identifying and Treating Trigger Points: Describe the process of locating and treating trigger points with dry needling.

Massage Science and Evidence: Examine the scientific rationale and evidential support for massage and related manual therapy approaches.

Client Education Demonstration on Canine Massage: Learn simple techniques in canine massage as they are taught to clients.

Lasers vs. Acupuncture and Massage: Compare and contrast the mechanisms of action of these three physical medicine approaches.

Arizona Animal Massage Therapists Sue for Access to Veterinary Patients: Explain the risks and benefits of non-veterinarians performing integrative therapies.
on animals in general, using massage therapy as an example.

- Tui Na: Chinese Massage or Something More? Differentiate between massage techniques and rationales from a scientific as opposed to a Traditional Chinese Medicine perspective.
- A Special Touch for Dying Animals. Describe the value of soft tissue manual therapy as a supportive approach for hospice patients and/or prior to euthanasia.
- Acupuncture, Massage Can Get the Gut Going: Identify overlapping mechanisms of action on the digestive tract for massage and acupuncture.

Module 7.
Acupuncture’s Related Technique: Laser Therapy  
*(4hr, 38min)*

- Photomedicine Physiology: Describe the biological effects of light on various tissues in the body.
- Clinical Applications of Laser Therapy in Veterinary Medicine: Recognize the clinical value of laser therapy in veterinary medicine.
- Laser Acupuncture: Identify the ways in which unfounded belief-system based acupuncture precepts have influenced the field of laser acupuncture.
- Laser Therapy for Intervertebral Disk Disease (IVDD): Describe the beneficial effects of laser therapy for IVDD in dogs.
- Tips on Selecting a Laser Therapy Unit: Compare and contrast different types of photomedicine devices.

Module 8.
Acupuncture Clinic  
*(10hr)*

- Ocular Disorders: Develop neuromodulation protocols for a variety of disorders affecting the head and neck. Consider local/peripheral, central, and autonomic nervous system routes of intervention. Address myofascial contributors to the problem.
- Digestive Disorders: Review the evidence of scientific medical acupuncture and related techniques for neuromodulation of functional digestive disorders. Gain experience developing neuromodulation protocols for veterinary patients with digestive difficulties. Remember that these approaches are part of an integrative treatment for the entire individual.
- Cancer: Review documented ways in which acupuncture may benefit patients with cancer and debunk myths about acupuncture and cancer.
- Neck and Back Pain: Review the evidence of acupuncture and related techniques for back and neck pain.
- Spinal Cord Injury: Learn why more veterinarians are re-evaluating what constitutes “standard of care” for conditions such as IVDD in dogs. Review the evolving landscape regarding standard of care for spinal cord injury and how it is changing as a result of the growing popularity of medical acupuncture and related techniques.
- Dermatologic Problems: Investigate causes and treatments of dermatologic disorders from a psychoneuroimmunologic perspective.
- Immune System Issues: Discuss interactions between the immune system, psyche, and neural tissues, i.e., psychoneuroimmunology. Review the anatomy of the immune system. Review the evidence for acupuncture and related techniques in immune dysfunction.
- Cardiac problems: Learn how scientific, medical acupuncture and related techniques aid the body in recovering cardiac balance. Review the ways in which cardiovascular anatomy and physiology translate into neuromodulation and physical medicine practice. Examine the evidence for acupuncture and related techniques for cardiac issues.
- Respiratory Conditions: Learn how knowledge about respiratory anatomy and physiology translates into neuromodulation and physical medicine practice. Review the anatomy of the respiratory system (upper and lower), and examine the evidence for acupuncture and related techniques with respect to respiratory challenges.
- Urogenital Dysfunction: Review the neuroanatomy of the urogenital system -- kidney, bladder and reproductive organs. Examine the scientific evidence for acupuncture and related techniques.
10 MODULES OF MEDICAL ACUPUNCTURE FOR VETERINARIANS

- Neurologic Disorders: Learn how to address neurologic problems such as seizures, sleep disorders, nerve injury, and pain.

SMALL ANIMAL/EXOTICS - DUAL TRACK

Module 9.
Small and Exotic Animal Acupuncture (7hr)

- Anorectic Cats: Review the causes of anorexia in cats. Construct neuromodulation and myofascial treatment approaches based on the diagnosis.

- “Catupuncture” (Feline Acupuncture): Approach cats correctly and they will tolerate acupuncture well. Learn what cats need to feel safe and relaxed. In so doing, you will better understand feline patients. Reduce pain, improve gastrointestinal motility, address musculoskeletal issues and treat urinary disorders.

- Exotic Animal Acupuncture: Learn how acupuncture and related techniques offer important healing options for exotic animals. Identify safe handling techniques for exotic animals.

- Neurologic Examination and Acupuncture: Refine your ability to determine the site of a neurologic lesion. Examine patients in a non-frightening manner. Remember that a relaxed patient provides more reliable and telling diagnostic information than does one that is stressed, hurting from your exam, or otherwise forced to comply.

- Orthopedic “Clinic”: Consider orthopedic conditions from a comprehensive perspective, beyond the black-and-white world of what does or does not show up on radiographs. Recognize that somatic pain arises from a number of sources, such as the soft tissues and nerves.

- Neuromodulation in Orthopedic Disease: Discover ways to maximize patients’ endogenous healing capacity. Review research concerning nonsurgical approaches to orthopedic problems. Create multifaceted physical medicine and rehabilitation protocols. Offer much more to clients than merely drugs and surgery.

- Integrative Medicine for Birds and Bunnies: Determine safe and effective ways to introduce scientific medical acupuncture and related techniques for problems in avian and lagomorph patients.

- Physical Medicine and Integrative Pain Approaches: Learn how an integrative pain medicine perspective informs physical rehabilitation practice. Implement key steps in your rehab practice. Begin with a diagnosis. Identify limitations in performance. Create goals that address the impairment and eventually reduce the disability. Develop goal-directed interventions.

- Critical Review of the Evidence for Surgical vs. Non-Surgical Treatment of Suspected IVDD: Consider the impact of surgical versus nonsurgical approaches for spinal cord disease on the whole patient - structurally, emotionally, and functionally, as well as on the entire family unit.

- Acupuncture in Critical Care and Internal Medicine: Explore ways to integrate scientific medical acupuncture and related techniques for the betterment of your patients’ health and recovery.

Module 10.
Acupuncture Approaches for Clinical Conditions (Variable time based on user ~ 1 hr)

- Acupuncture Clinic Case 1: Frequent Regurgitation
- Acupuncture Clinic Case 2: Uncontrollable Cluster Seizures
- Acupuncture Clinic Case 3: Left Forelimb Lameness
- Acupuncture Clinic Case 4: Funny Walk & Limp Tail
- Acupuncture Clinic Case 5: Thoracic Limb Lameness
- Acupuncture Clinic Case 6: Feather Picker
- Acupuncture Clinic Case 7: Can’t Jump into the Car Anymore
- Acupuncture Clinic Case 8: Pain Consult
- Acupuncture Clinic Case 9: Stuffy Nose
- Acupuncture Clinic Case 10: Difficulty Walking & Back Pain

Techniques Tutorials
Small Animal / Exotics (2hr, 55min)

- Canine Big Points (24min)
- Canine Regional Points (42min)
- Electroacupuncture & Myofascial Palpation, etc. (1hr, 52min)
NOTE: Our curriculum evolves as new information becomes available. The material contained herein is thus subject to change as needed in order to optimize your education.

“The MAV course opened my eyes to the field of integrative medicine and reignited my passion for clinical practice. The entire week of the Clinical Intensive, my mind was racing with ideas on how I could employ MAIN techniques to benefit my patients when I return home. Thank you to the CuraCore family - this was truly a career-changing experience!”
Charles VanHusan, DVM (2019 student)

“Learning medical acupuncture for my patients has really allowed me to become a healer. I wish that I learned these skills and this part of medicine in veterinary school. I feel so thankful and proud to have completed such a wonderful program that will help so many. I would highly recommend CuraCore training. The care and training of everyone is unmatched!”
Lauren Celano, DVM (2019 student)

“This course may change how you practice veterinary medicine. Learning to observe the whole patient and using my hands more thoughtfully in palpation of the myofascia/understanding how to help neuromodulation of the body with scientifically proven techniques, is so rewarding. These methods open up a whole new world of additional treatment options that will help my patients heal and be more comfortable. The human-animal bond is alive and well at Curacore! I feel I’ve added more tools to my toolbox in treating my patients and also helping clients learn how to help their pets and become more compliant and more participating in their pet’s care. Just wish I would have taken this course sooner!”
Ann Winsor, DVM (2019 student)

“The care and planning that went into this course was obvious. I have never had so much quality hands-on practice in any course.”
Erin Bequette, DVM (2019 student)
YOUR NEXT STEP STARTS HERE
REGISTER AND BEGIN LEARNING TODAY.
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All course registrants receive the Kindle version of Dr. Robinson’s human atlas - a monumental work that gives translational insight into the human acupuncture matrix from which the veterinary acupuncture points and channels derived their locations.

Interactive Medical Acupuncture Anatomy
By Narda G. Robinson, DO, DVM, MS, FAAMA

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Narda G. Robinson, DO, DVM, MS, FAAMA, is a leading authority on scientific integrative medicine from a One Health perspective, with over two decades of practicing, teaching, and writing about integrative medical approaches in both veterinary and human osteopathic medicine. Dr. Robinson is also the Founder, CEO, Lead Faculty, and Course Director for CuraCore VET -- the only veterinary educational institution that brings together knowledge and insights from both human and veterinary medicine.

In 1998, Dr. Robinson launched Colorado State University’s first integrative medicine service and for eight years directed CSU’s Center for Comparative and Integrative Pain Medicine. Dr. Robinson has taught a variety of popular, scientifically based continuing education courses, ranging from medical acupuncture and massage to botanical treatment and photomedicine. Dr. Robinson holds a Bachelor of Arts (AB) degree from Harvard/Radcliffe, a doctorate in osteopathic medicine (DO) from the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine, and a doctorate in veterinary medicine (DVM) and master’s degree in biomedical sciences (MS) from the Colorado State University College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences. She is a fellow within the American Academy of Medical Acupuncture (AAMA). She also serves on the American Board of Medical Acupuncture, the board-certifying organization for physician medical acupuncturists, and the AAMA Board of Directors.

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