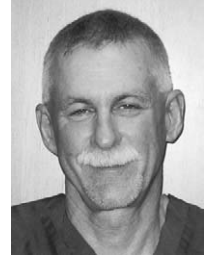


### PREFACE

## Rehabilitation and Physical Therapy



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*Guest Editors*

**R**ehabilitation and physical therapy for humans is a well-known discipline, and its positive effects have been well documented. Historically, little attention has been given to veterinary patients needing these services. Rehabilitation and physical therapy in veterinary medicine, however, is rapidly becoming a recognized discipline and is being sought after as a service by veterinary professionals and owners. There is a tremendous interest on the part of veterinary caregivers to investigate and provide rehabilitation and therapy following injury, surgery, and illness. Techniques used in human physical therapy are being adapted for use in small animal patients, and their effectiveness is being studied.

The intent of this issue is to present a practical approach to rehabilitation of small animals as well as the science and research behind it. After an article introducing the principles of rehabilitation, the biomechanics of physical therapy, manual therapy, physical modalities, and emerging modalities are presented. Information on rehabilitation and physical therapy of specific patients follows, including sporting dogs, orthopedic, neurologic, and medically compromised patients and patients that have wounds. The issue concludes with an article on the logistics of companion animal rehabilitation in small animal practice.

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