SUZ O’BRIEN Animal/Canine Therapeutic Massage 214-334-8517 [caninetherapist@puretemple.org](mailto:caninetherapist@puretemple.org) https://puretemple.org

SUPERVISING VETERINARIAN REFERRAL FOR THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE   
Hello, I offer complimentary adjunctive therapy as a certified animal massage therapist. While I do not manipulate bones or work as an animal chiropractor, (note below Texas Admin Code Rule) I ask my clients to share this referral form to raise awareness, build veterinary wellness partnerships with the goal of aiding companion animals to live their best life which requires a blend of allopathic and holistic wellness. Working together, the outcomes seen are reduction of injuries, generally swifter healing from injury, natural pain mediation, increased stamina, mobility, better socialization, and a happier more robust animal. I invite pet parents (my clients) to ask their veterinarians for review and approval as a wellness partner and am happy to receive and share notes and take direction as requested.   
  
Texas Administrative Code Rule §573.14 governs animal chiropractic and other forms of musculoskeletal manipulation (“MSM”) are considered, in this state, to be alternate therapies in the practice of veterinary medicine.   
To work together, honor the spirit of Rule §573.14, and assure there are no mitigating underlying medical issues that may be contraindicated for massage, Suzanne O’Brien/PureTemple, asks that all patients be under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian.   
**Please have your veterinarian complete the following and keep a copy in your pet’s file. Return the original to Suzanne O’Brien/PureTemple, prior to beginning your first session.   
Veterinarian Acknowledgement** My name is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and I am a veterinarian licensed in the State of Texas. In compliance with Texas Administrative Code Rule §573.14, I acknowledge the following: ● I have established a valid veterinarian-client-patient relationship with the animal(s) listed below. ○ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ○ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ For more than two animals, please use additional form ● I have made an examination to determine that animal therapeutic massage will not likely be harmful to the patient(s). ● I will obtain and include in the patient’s/patients’ permanent record a signed acknowledgement from the owner or other caretaker of the patient as the referring veterinarian for holistic massage therapy. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Supervising Veterinarian & Date   
**Owner/Caretaker Acknowledgement** By signing below, I acknowledge my understanding that animal massage is considered by Texas law to be an alternate therapy. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Owner/Caretaker & Date   
Do We have permission to post pictures/video of your animal on **social media? \_\_\_Y \_\_\_N**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | Dear Veterinary Wellness Partner,  **Massage is maintenance that all dogs (and cats) should have.** While there is a massage therapy that is right for every animal, before treatment, clients are referred to their veterinarian to complete the veterinary referral form. As a wellness partner, I like to think of it as a double check that we don’t have any scary concerns such as cancer, bloat or other contraindication to therapeutic massage before we begin. With regard to cancer, this can be a palliative treatment and up to the veterinarian to recommend. Next, and especially in older pets, I want to assure the animal has regular checkups as massage therapy is not a substitute for regular veterinary care.  **Leave No Paw Behind** – By sharing our understanding of the benefits of these adjunctive therapies, we save lives, remedy pain and mobility concerns and communicate the importance of regular preventative maintenance to the community. **We grow our practice by being progressive, sharing options that work, putting our client and their animal’s wellness first.**  When you think of massage, you may think of Swedish or deep tissue but are you familiar with Reiki energy, for example, where the patient may not ever be physically touched and yet derive great healing? **The purpose of my certifying in several modalities is specifically so that I can tailor treatment to the individual,** whether that dog was in a recent car accident, is experiencing hyperactivity, gastrointestinal upset, post-surgery to reduce inflammation and scarring, sports injury, Wobblers, Hip Dysplasia, spinal trauma or a pre and post athletic session to assure they are playing at their peak there is a modality (or several) right for them. **When we roadblock bodywork, we extend pain and mobility problems and lessen quality of life.**  **For most DFW area veterinarians, this may be the first time looking at the supervisory vet form**, let alone contemplating bodywork for a patient. While we expand the awareness together, here is an outline of techniques considered to be under the ‘massage therapy’ umbrella and a brief description:  **Acupressure** – Non-Invasive, I apply protocols for such things as calming, spinal or gastrointestinal upset, to various acupoints.  **Laser Acupuncture** – Non-invasive, this technique uses a laser pen to go from the acupoints through the specific meridian, such as the bladder meridian, to unblock stuck energy.  **ANMR** – Animal Neuro-Myofascial Release This technique addresses any muscular hypo or hypertonicities by re-establishing proper neurological input and directly releasing the spasms or trigger points in the muscles. This technique allows the body to align itself rather than providing specific force to the bones to change their position (chiropractic). For this work I use my hands as well as a release or activator tool.  **Vibration Plate Therapy –** This offers significant benefits to the whole body and specifically for alleviating sarcopenia, muscle atrophy and beneficial for dogs with mobility concerns as it stimulates the muscles and provides a workout as it strengthens muscles and core. **Aroma Therapy & Florals** – I use certified organic, canine approved essential oils and florals for calming and relaxing.  **CMFT** – Canine Myo-Manipulative Functional Therapy – This includes various massage techniques from T touch, to Swedish and gua sha and aroma therapy studies,  **Craniosacral** – This is an intense but very gentle form of therapy involving various holds from head to tail. Here we tune into the dog, feel the pulse of the craniosacral fluid, and hold various positions as we look for releases or unwinding along the way. Damage can be from birth or rough play or accident. This gentle therapy helps alleviate these imbalances found in the skull and facial structure and throughout the body.  **Kinesiology Taping** – Well known for ages in sports medicine, tape generally remains on the dog 3-5 days, can support back, hip, ACL, spinal and disc bulges with various ways in which the tape can be applied. Taping is also beneficial with edema/swelling at injury sites and to minimize scarring after surgery. K-Tape is also beneficial for urinary incontinence and proprioception.  **Light Therapy** – Noninvasive and swift treatment to remedy pain as it speeds oxygen supply to the area in need of healing. Great for areas too sensitive to touch.  **PEMF Far and Near Infrared Crystal mat** – I see most of my clients at my home where I have this mat set up which helps align and clear the chakras as I work. The PEMF mat helps earth or ground the patient and facilitate healing by reducing the bad EMF we get from 4G, 5G, TV, laptops and cell phones.  **Reiki** – As a Reiki Master, I employ Reiki energy during all my sessions. If the animal cannot be present, we can do distance Reiki as well. Reiki uses universal healing energy and this modality releases and unblocks the body’s energy channels.  **Sound Therapy** – Music tailored to the canine to relax. I use a mixture of Tibetan healing bowls and healing frequencies. |