



**Douglas Stramel, DVM, CVPP
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Q: Why did you join IVAPM?

A: I have always had a strong interest in pain management and rehabilitation which led to joining IVAPM. Joining IVAPM has afforded me the ability to gain and expand my pain management knowledge base and pass this information onto others seeking to learn.

Q: What is the importance of pain management in veterinary medicine?

A: For far too long the veterinary community did not utilize proper pain relief in our patients. Part of this was due to lack of medications and modalities, however a huge part was due to lack of knowledge on how to identify and treat pain. The paradigm has shifted and we now have a vast array of medications and modalities to allow us to comfort our patients that suffer from acute and chronic pain conditions. We strive to spread knowledge throughout the veterinary community on how to assess pain in our patients as well as the best way to treat the condition.

Q: What vet medicine pain management related initiatives are you involved with and/or most proud of accomplishing?

A: I was in the first group to take and pass the examination for a Certified Veterinary Pain Practitioner. This certification along with my involvement in IVAPM led to being a national and international speaker/educator on the topic of pain management. Additionally, I own and operate the first (and only) pain management facility that is dedicated to helping pets in pain throughout the Dallas and Fort Worth Metroplex.

Q: What passion veterinary projects are you currently involved?

A: Utilizing my position to speak and educate my colleagues at conferences. I have also been involved in several FDA studies to help bring new pain medications to the veterinary field.

Dr. Stramel is a graduate of Kansas State University. Go Cats!