



**Gwen Francisco, MFA, LVT, CVPP  
Washington, USA**

***Q: Why did you join IVAPM?***

A: I joined IVAPM because I am convinced that we cannot provide the best care for our patients unless we safely mitigate their pain. I'm proud to be a member of this phenomenal resource for the most current and the most compassionate pain management knowledge and science.

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

A: Pre-empting and alleviating pain is key to our patients' well-being and quality of life. inadequately managed pain can negatively impact patients for their lifetime. Safely managing pain is our ethical and medical responsibility.

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

A: I'm very fortunate to work with fourth year vet students helping them augment their pain management knowledge and develop pain management protocols. These students are bright, eager to learn and dedicated to practicing good medicine. It's extremely rewarding to see the next generation of veterinarians build their pain expertise.

***Q: What passion veterinary projects are you currently involved?***

A: I am a member of IVAPM's student committee which is dedicated to bringing pain management awareness and expertise to veterinary and technician students. When students are made aware of what IVAPM offers, they are excited to join and utilize our resources, especially the CRI calculator! It's very gratifying to know that IVAPM is making such an important contribution to the professionals who will be caring for our patients.

Gwen graduated with a BA from the University of Iowa and received her MFA from New Mexico State University. She received her degree in veterinary technology from Cedar Valley College and completed her CVPP in 2016.