

Contents

Foreword by Francis Hunter
Introduction
What is Homeopathy?
Which remedies do I need?
First aid remedies for Dogs
The Mind – Anxiety, Fear, and Aggression
The Ear
Gums and Teeth
Diarrhoea
Constipation and Anal problems
Urinary Tract
Undescended Testicle
Pregnancy and Labour
Puppies post whelping
Lactation and Mastitis
Musculoskeletal Problems
Skin Complaints
Case Histories
References and Contacts

Introduction

In writing this book we have attempted, within the limits of a small canvas, to paint the bigger picture of homeopathy, the holistic therapy which at its heart accentuates the importance of the individual as a key to cure. We pay special attention to the beginner, and every endeavour has been made to enhance the understanding of the subject by explaining the principles simply and presenting treatment regimes in a pragmatic way. Our main aim being to empower the owner to treat their own animal safely and effectively.

Chapter structure was deliberately chosen to follow the organisation of the classical homeopathic reference texts with their hierarchical order from mind to extremities. Likewise, we have attempted to reduce the confusion so often encountered by the beginner in assisting in the choice of the initial and later remedies, together with their potencies and dosage regimes.

We deliberately excluded conditions which require not only a qualified vet but also an experienced homeopath. Always seek professional help when required, never let your dog suffer unnecessarily. If you wish your animal to be treated by a homeopathic vet approach one directly, or ask your own vet for a referral (they cannot refuse). See last page for details. We fervently hope that you will be encouraged to explore this wonderful subject in greater depth after this initial foray, and trust that both you and your animal will benefit from the contents of this book.

Mark Elliott & Tony Pinkus. January 1996

This book is dedicated to George Macleod MRCVS, VetFFHom. for the inspiration he gave us and many others, for his formative influence on the practice of homeopathic veterinary medicine, and on behalf of the innumerable, unceasingly thankful owners whose pets he treated successfully.

For how long should I treat my dog?

When using remedies for the prevention of disease we must strike a balance between giving too much and not giving enough. This sounds confusing but it is really very simple. Seasonal complaints in kennels can be anticipated by administering weekly doses of the appropriate *nosode* during the period prior to peak infection, stopping immediately after that period. By contrast giving three doses a day for three months would definitely be considered overdosing. If there is a known infection in the kennel then weekly doses of the *nosode* might be given to the healthy animals whilst affected dogs are treated individually according to their symptoms.

When treating a sick dog the key message is to give sufficient doses of the chosen remedy to evoke a response and then to stop. Additional doses will, as previously stated be of little value unless the condition returns. The dosage regimes recommended in this booklet are merely guidelines and are not written in stone. Once you have gained some experience the above will become apparent, and you will become your own expert.

Remedy selection – how best to use this book

This book has been written as a guide with indications for each remedy located under the appropriate section. If you experience difficulty in choosing the correct remedy then ask yourself how acute the problem is. Plant remedies are more likely to be implicated in early inflammatory disease especially before pus formation. As heat dissipates the tissues suppurate and harden the mineral remedies come into play. Be aware of time and space factors. What time of the day or night is the complaint worse? How rapidly did it start? Which side of the dog is affected? How is the dog behaving?

For any given complaint there may be a group of remedies from which to pick the cure. The latter is the remedy which most closely fits the present situation and in particular matches the specific times of aggravation and improvement, be they from whatever cause.