

# Dogs In Motion

Winter 2006

In Home Canine  
Rehabilitation &  
Wellness



See us at the Chicagoland Family Pet Expo, March 17-19, at Arlington Race Park, booth 329

**Dogs In Motion** is a Physical Therapist owned and operated company serving all of Lake County and the northern suburbs of Cook County. Services are by veterinary referral only.

**Dogs In Motion** is the first and only company in the area to provide **in-home** rehabilitation services.

**Dogs In Motion** is also available to provide rehabilitation services within a veterinarian's facility, if desired.

When you refer to **Dogs In Motion**, rest assured, you will receive:

- Initial Evaluation faxed within 24-48 hours of the initial visit to both the referring and primary veterinarians.
- Excellent ongoing communication regarding the client and the plan of care.
- Re-enforcement of discharge instructions, restrictions and precautions.
- Clients referred back to you for follow-up regarding current or new issues.

#### Why In-Home Canine Rehab with **Dogs In Motion**?

- Dogs, like humans, heal better in their own environment.
- It's less stressful on the dogs.
- It's convenient for owners, they do not have to load their dog into the car and then rush around in traffic. Appointments are available 7 days a week (morning through evening).
- Treatment time is one-on-one.
- It allows the therapist to custom tailor the dog's program to his / her environment taking into consideration actual environmental barriers and safety issues (slippery floors, loose throw rugs, stairs, etc.) rather than just simulating or anticipating them.
- Our services are **affordable!!!** That's right, affordable.

#### Thoughts on senior canines:

Getting older doesn't have to mean slowing down, unless of course, it is to smell the roses, the curb, the fire hydrant, the light post, etc.



#### About **Dogs In Motion's** founder:



I became a licensed Physical Therapist in 1991 and have been an animal lover (having had dogs, cats, birds, etc.) my entire life. Up until 1994, these were just two separate passions and had my dog, Chelsea, not fractured her ulna, they may have remained that way. In an effort to help my dog return to normal pain-free function, I began applying the same rehabilitation techniques that have been used on humans for years. From that point on, I started combining my love for animals and my passion for physical therapy. My home, as an adult, has also been filled with dogs, mostly rescued Dachshunds with back problems.

Over the years, I've talked with many veterinarians, read available information and received advanced training to learn canine anatomy, physiology, neurology, etc. and how to apply the same concepts of rehabilitation to canines who are aging, ill, injured or who have undergone surgery. Just recently, I was appointed to **American Physical Therapy Association's (APTA) Animal PT Special Interest Group** as the **Illinois State Liaison** to facilitate the working relationship between Veterinary Medicine and Physical Therapy.

#### CANINE REHAB MODEL & PHILOSOPHY

**Dogs In Motion** follows a three phase model of canine rehabilitation: The Acute Phase, The Sub-Acute Phase and The Maintenance or Wellness Phase. See handout for details.

For the best outcomes, consider restricting activity and referring to **Dogs In Motion** for canine rehabilitation within the first week after surgery or injury, rather than instructing clients to provide strict confinement with only intermittent bathroom breaks. Remember, humans begin physical therapy the same day as surgery or at the latest, the day after surgery. Therapy is progressive and all precautions are strictly followed.

Patti Triola, PT

**Dogs In Motion, In Home Canine Rehabilitation & Wellness**

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Coming soon: [www.dogsinmotion.net](http://www.dogsinmotion.net)

## Veterinarian's Corner:

"I first met Patti when she brought in the first (of many) dachshunds for acupuncture, all of whom had back surgery for intervertebral disc herniations and were paraplegic. With the combination of acupuncture and Patti's expert and tireless physical rehabilitation, every one has recovered much of his or her mobility.

I'm even more excited about what Patti can do for our arthritic patients. Whereas NSAIDS, neutraceuticals, weight loss, etc., can really help, Patti's physical rehabilitation can make a big difference in their quality of life.

Patti does an extremely thorough physical evaluation and formulates the therapy plan based on her findings. Clients have seen great improvement in their pets after Patti has worked on them and they are taught how to participate in the ongoing care of their dog. Dogs who had trouble simply standing up, get a new lease on life!

We refer every one of our knee surgeries to Patti and Dogs In Motion for post-op physical rehabilitation. By starting early after surgery, rehab has given our patients back better mobility and strength. Our clients are grateful to have someone to help their pets after surgery and many say that their pets get better care than they did after their own surgeries!"

Dr. Molly McCullough  
Vernon Hills Animal Hospital

Meet Sir Oscar Mayer:  
Oscar (my only non-rescued dachshund) will be 12 in February. He has had three Surgeries for IVDD:



- July 2000: T11-T12 acute disc rupture. Referring surgeon: Dr. Claude Gendreau, Veterinary Special Center; Surgical Referral Service
  - September 2000: T12-T13 acute disc rupture. Referring surgeon: Dr. Mitch Robbins, Veterinary Special Center, Surgical Referral Service
  - December 21, 2005: L3-4 herniation, L6-7 disc rupture. Referring surgeon: Dr. Scott Averill, Animal Emergency and Critical Care Center
- Oscar's determination to walk and to lead a normal life is the driving force that continues to motivate me to practice canine rehabilitation and to form **Dogs In Motion** in the spring of 2005. Oscar, who knows canine rehab all too well, has been making significant improvements and has returned to many of his favorite activities.

## Client's Corner:



Dottie, a 4 year old FS Shih Tzu / Poodle mix, s/p L CCL repair. Referred by Dr. Susan Sneed, Vernon Hills Animal Hospital.

"Thank you again so very much for everything! I've really enjoyed having you over and learning

everything I can do to help Dottie. Now if her other knee goes out (hopefully not!), I will be able to get her therapy started right away. If I'm ever in the position where I can refer somebody to you, I will in a heartbeat! All the best" - Marisa Schwartz, Mundelein, IL

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Kelsey, a 10.5 year old FS Dachshund, s/p hemilaminectomy for disk herniation at L1-L2 and L3-L4. Referred by Dr. Aaron Jackson, Animal Emergency and Critical Care Center.



"Thanks so much for your patience and your work to get me walking again. I am very happy (so is my family)." - Princess Kelsey & The Barron Family, Wilmette, IL

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Betty, 10 yr old FS Jack Russel, companion pet of Dr. Barten of Vernon Hills Animal Hospital, s/p R CCL repair. Referred by Dr. Mitch Robbins, Surgical Referral

Services and the veterinarians at Vernon Hills Animal Hospital.

"My dog Betty tore her ACL earlier this year. Patti Triola evaluated Betty and prescribed a regimen of massage, passive range of motion and exercises, etc. to help her regain muscle tone and return to function. The benefits were significant and obvious, and I have been referring patients with orthopedic, osteoarthritic and neurological conditions to her ever since." - Dr. Steve Barten

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Lucy, an 8 year old FS Boxer with mild DJD R CF joint, severe DJD L CF joint, mild DJD and joint effusion B stifles, bridging spondylosis lumbar spine. Referred by Dr. Averill, Animal Emergency and Critical Care Center.



"The caring, professional, and therapeutic touch of Dogs in Motion's Patti Triola has afforded my 8 year old Boxer, Lucy, much needed pain relief and joint mobilization. Lucy is moving like she did 3 years ago and is always delighted to see Patti. In addition, Patti has educated me on at-home exercises to help strengthen Lucy and provide her with an overall better quality of life. I highly recommend Dogs in Motion!!!!" - Betsy Popovich, Mundelein IL