



Friday 9th October 2026 | Beckbury 4 | 09:30 - 11:00

Speaker: Nichi Cockburn RVN NCert(A&CC) CCRP AdvCertVPhys CCMP MIRVAP (VP)

Title: Physiotherapy and rehabilitation for the RVN workshop



Nichi has been a Registered veterinary nurse for over 25 years, many of these years were in emergency and critical care. Nichi refocused her training in rehabilitation and physiotherapy and gained her Certified Canine Rehabilitation Practitioner (CCRP) qualification, awarded by the University of Tennessee in 2015 and an Advanced Certificate in Veterinary Physiotherapy in 2017. She is also a Clinical Canine Massage Therapist. Nichi leads a busy rehabilitation service in Cardiff and works closely with the team to develop an individual care package for pain management and rehabilitation. Nichi has a particular passion in the management of osteoarthritis and sits on the board of directors of the Veterinary Osteoarthritis Alliance (VOA).

Synopsis:

This workshop equips veterinary nurses with hands-on skills to support in-patient recovery through rehabilitation and physiotherapy. Participants explore practical techniques for post-operative care, mobility improvement, and pain management, integrating evidence-based methods into everyday practice. Using case studies, nurses can learn how to design tailored, in-patient rehabilitation plans and collaborate effectively with veterinary surgeons. The session emphasises safe handling, patient assessment, clinical reasoning and monitoring progress to enhance outcomes. By the end, attendees gain confidence in how rehabilitation techniques can be used in day to day practice, with a variety of clinical conditions, enabling them to improve animal welfare, support recovery, and expand the scope of nurse led services.

Learning Objectives:

1. Apply fundamental rehabilitation techniques to demonstrate hands-on skills ensuring safe and effective practice.
2. Assess and develop individualised rehabilitation plans to create post operative, nursing rehabilitation plans for patients to enhance patient outcomes.
3. Monitor, evaluate, and communicate patient progress.