



VESTAL VETERINARY HOSPITAL



VOM

Veterinary Orthopedic Manipulation (Veterinary Chiropractic)

VOM is a non-invasive, non-painful chiropractic technique developed by veterinary surgeon Dr. William Inman in 1984. VOM utilizes the activator technique, a well-established, successful human technology to treat many musculoskeletal and orthopedic diseases of small animals.

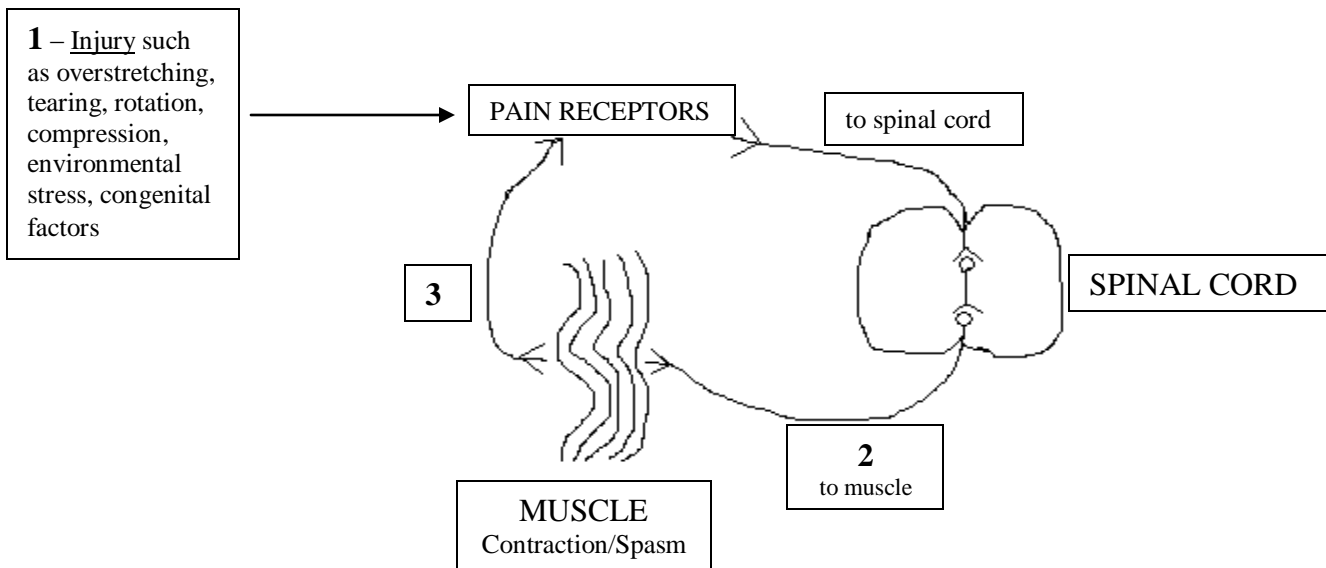
What it treats:

- Neck pain
- Back pain
- Degenerative disc disease
- Spinal arthritis / spondylosis
- Other degenerative musculoskeletal diseases

How it works:

The basis of this technology is the neurologic reduction of inflammation. By stimulating certain specific nerve endings we can induce the release of the body's own anti-inflammatory compounds.

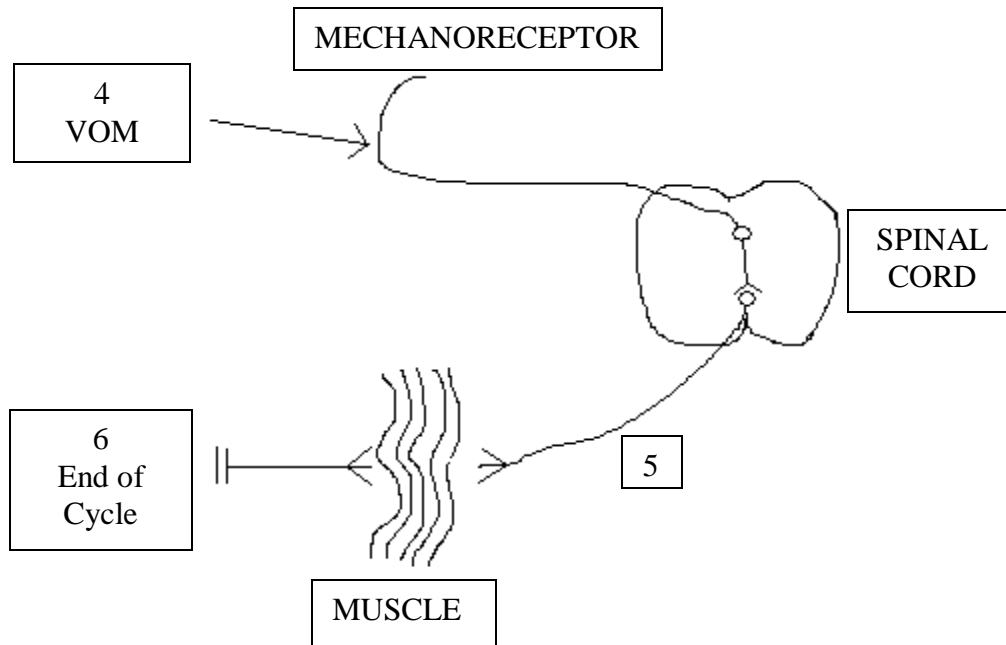
Here's what's happening:



- 1 - Injury stimulates pain
- 2 - Pain stimulates muscle contraction, releasing products of inflammation: Histamine, Prostaglandins, Lactic Acid.
- 3 - Inflammation causes swelling and edema, which causes more PAIN, which feeds back on pain receptors, starting the whole cycle over again.

THE GOAL OF ANY TREATMENT OPTION (SURGERY, MEDICATIONS, HOMEOPATHY, -CUPUNCTURE, CHIROPRACTIC, MASSAGE THERAPY, TENS UNIT) **IS TO STOP THE CYCLING INFLAMMATORY PROCESS AND INDUCE MUSCLE RELAXATION.** Inflammation will cause continual release of toxic inflammatory products and will result in degeneration and arthritis.

This is our treatment model:



- 4 - By stimulating other nerves called mechanoreceptors, we can turn off this repeating cycle of inflammation. VOM uses the activator (think of it as acupuncture) to achieve this.
- 5 - Mechanical input has the opposite effect of pain impulses (like relieving a leg muscle cramp by stretching out the muscle), releasing the body's own anti-inflammatory mediators: antiprostaglandins, endorphins, muscle relaxants, and vasodilators.
- 6 - Muscle relaxation occurs, pain resolves, the body goes back to normal.

What we do:

- a. The pet is evaluated to see if VOM is a possible treatment option.
- b. Various treatment options or combinations are discussed.
- c. VOM is started. Three "passes" with the acupuncture device are made while watching for specific reflexes.
- d. An average of five to seven treatments are given over the following schedule:

<u>Treatment #</u>	<u>Given</u>
1	Day 1
2	1 week later
3	1 week later
4	2 weeks later
5	3 weeks later
6	4 weeks later
7	8 weeks later

Cost for the treatments is \$41.00 for the initial treatment, and \$31.00 for each additional session.

VOM is a safe, non-invasive, non-painful procedure that gives us another option in our efforts to keep pets with musculoskeletal pain more comfortable.