What Is A Certified Animal Hospice and Palliative Care Veterinarian?

A Certified Animal Hospice and Palliative Care Veterinarian (CHPV®) is a highly trained professional dedicated to providing compassionate and comprehensive care for animals with life-limiting illnesses or those nearing the end of their lives. These veterinarians specialize in managing pain, discomfort, and emotional distress in animals while focusing on enhancing their quality of life. They have also completed a rigorous 100+ hours of specialized training through the IAAHPC.

Roles & Responsibilities

- Pain Management: They are proficient in assessing and managing pain through various techniques, including medication, physical therapy, and alternative therapies such as acupuncture or massage.

- Symptom Control: They address symptoms such as nausea, loss of appetite, difficulty breathing, and mobility issues to ensure the animal's comfort and well-being.

- End-of-Life Care: They offer support and guidance to pet owners facing difficult decisions about end-of-life care, including euthanasia, and provide options for palliative care to maintain the animal's comfort and dignity.

- Emotional Support: They provide emotional support and counseling to pet owners, helping them cope with the challenges and emotions associated with caring for a terminally ill or elderly pet.

- Collaboration: They work closely with pet owners, primary care veterinarians, and other healthcare professionals to develop personalized care plans tailored to the individual needs of each animal.