



arthritis, allergies, cancers and auto-immune conditions. There are also, unfortunately, side effects and risks from some drugs and surgeries."

Complementary therapies offered by holistic vets and practitioners work to help support, accelerate and aid healing. Generally, the therapies are safe and gentle. They are non-invasive and give pet owners the opportunity to explore other aspects of healing.

Many people who have turned to complementary medicine have done so out of frustration over a problem that had continuously affected their pet. Many have been surprised at how practical and helpful the natural approach has been for their animal.

Animal homeopath and herbalist Paulette Carpenter agrees that natural therapies can play an important role in a pet's overall health. She notes how important it is to assist the body in healing itself rather than bombarding the system with drugs.

"Homeopathy and herbal treatments don't look at suppressing the body, but rather supporting it in its journey to heal itself and clearing any obstructions in the way," Paulette says.

Diet – a good place to start

If your animal has a seemingly incurable ailment, a good thing to look at is its diet.

"When a diet is poor and then changed to include wholesome, well-balanced foods, animals show a remarkable improvement in their condition," Liza says.

"The difference is marked between the diet of a wild dog and that of the average Fido. Feeding raw foods such as meat and organs can have big benefits."

Natural foods are helping many hounds and felines alike to battle issues such as smelly breath, smelly and large faeces, and skin and coat issues.

A natural diet can also help ward off some disease and behavioural issues.

I'm an avid bones and raw food diet user for my furry friends and I've spent endless hours cutting up offal, raw meat and vegetables. ►