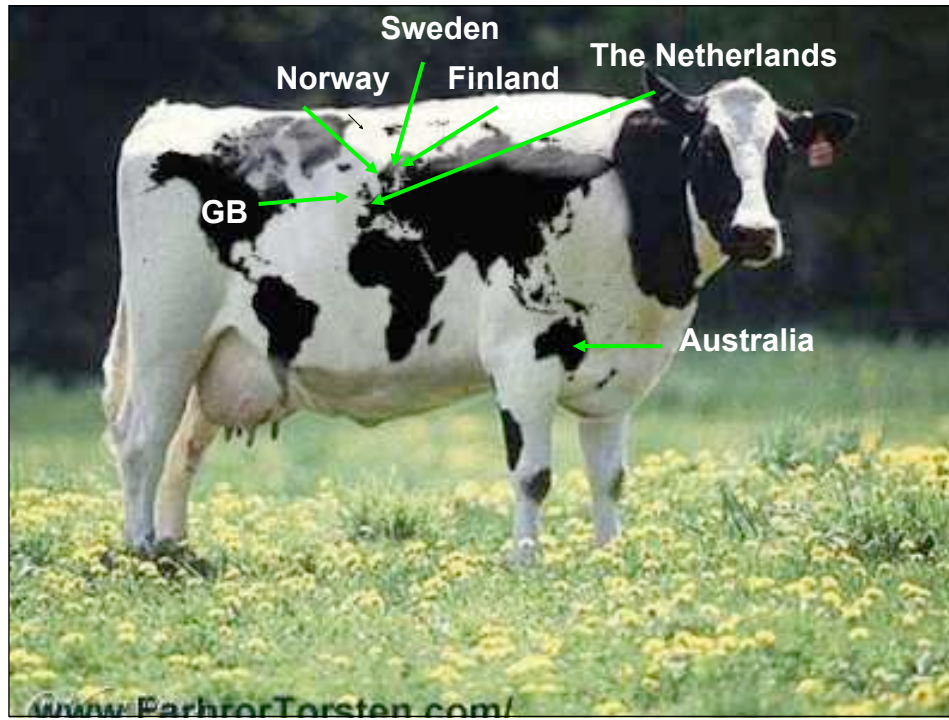


REGULATORY ISSUES FOR ANIMAL HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONS-

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SWEDEN

- **The Act on Professional Activities within the Field of Animal Health Care (2010)**
- **Introduction of the comprehensive term “animal health care personnel”**
- **Restrictions to the right to professionally treat animals for individuals who are not animal health personnel**



SWEDEN

- **Until 2010, the veterinary surgeons were the only occupational group that had a protected license to treat animals**
- **From 2010, a protected license is given to veterinary nurses with a university degree in veterinary nursing**



SWEDEN

- **A possibility for licensed medical practitioners to be approved for activities in animal health care;**
 - human nurses
 - physical therapists
 - dentists**with a post-graduate course in veterinary medicine or equivalent professional experience and qualifications.**



SWEDEN

- **Animal health care personnel have a professional responsibility for their duties:**
 - **must refer the animal to other animal health care personnel if its condition requires other treatment for which the professional is not qualified**
 - **should be exercised according to scientific knowledge and established experience**
- **Thus, occupational groups may not work with alternative medicine.**

SWEDEN: Summary

- **Professional veterinary physical rehabilitation could be administered by veterinary surgeons, veterinary nurses and licensed human physical therapists**
 - at their own responsibility
 - when consider themselves having adequate qualifications
 - and exercised according to scientific documentation and established experience.

OTHER NORDIC COUNTRIES

COUNTRY	LICENCED	VET ACT	RESPONSIBILITY
FINLAND	Vet. surgeon	Diagnose Treatment Acup.	Vet. surgeon
NORWAY*	Vet. surgeon Vet. nurses	Diagnose Treatment Acup.	Vet. surgeon
DENMARK*	Vet. surgeon	Diagnose Treatment	Vet. surgeon

*Authorisation may be given other animal health personnel

THE NETHERLANDS

- **Animal Health and Welfare Act (1992) and the Veterinary Act (1990)**
- **Only veterinarians are allowed to perform veterinary acts:**
 - to investigate animals and diagnose
 - to treat animals and cure/prevent diseases
 - to perform surgery



THE NETHERLANDS

- Exemptions for specific veterinary acts are made for veterinary nurses and animal physiotherapists
- Animal physiotherapists need a human degree in physiotherapy and a post graduate course in animal physiotherapy.



THE NETHERLANDS

- **Animal physiotherapists can work only on referral from a veterinarian**
- **Animal physiotherapists are responsible for their own work**
- **In the Veterinary Act physiotherapy is defined as:**
 - **therapeutic exercises**
 - **massage therapy**
 - **modalities (electro-, ultrasound-, thermal-, hydro-, balneotherapy)**

AUSTRALIA

- The introduction of national registration in July 2010 should mean that physiotherapists will be able to perform physiotherapy on any species, under the referral of a veterinarian and providing the physiotherapist does not make a diagnosis.



AUSTRALIA

- **Non-physiotherapists (including veterinarians and vet nurses) may not perform physiotherapy, but may perform 'rehabilitation', as the term 'rehabilitation' is not regulated.**



GREAT BRITAIN

- **The Protection of Animals Act and the Veterinary Surgeons Act of 1966**
- **A Guide to Professional Conduct was published 2000**
- **The profession of veterinary surgeons is fully regulated and the occupational groups of veterinary nurses and veterinary physiotherapists are partly regulated**



GREAT BRITAIN

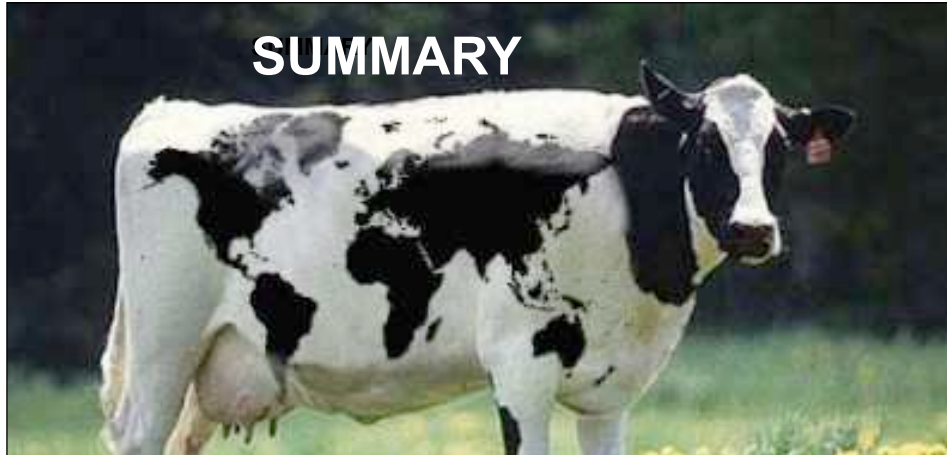
- **The veterinary surgeon is responsible for the diagnosis, referral and the treatment administered by these occupational groups.**
- **The term physiotherapy includes different modalities such as osteopathy and chiropractics, but not acupuncture and aromatherapy.**



GREAT BRITAIN

- **In short, the following interventions are restricted to a veterinary surgeon:**
 - **to diagnose diseases and injuries, and to perform tests on animals for diagnostic purpose**
 - **to perform surgical operations**
 - **acupuncture, aromatherapy, homeopathy and other complementary treatments are restricted to the use by a veterinary surgeon with adequate qualifications.**

SUMMARY



In most of the countries:

**The legislation is based on an Animal Welfare Act
and a Veterinary Act**

**The veterinarian is responsible for the diagnosis
and treatment performed by other occupational
groups**