

# HANK'S CVN PET PAGE

Dr. Tiffany Ma launched a house call veterinary practice dedicated to pet hospice care, chronic pain management, and in-home euthanasia this Spring based in Castro Valley. Her goal is to provide customized high quality veterinary care to geriatric or terminally ill pets in the comfort of their own home without any stress or fear.

"It can be devastating if someone tells you your pet only have a few weeks to live and there is nothing can be done." said Dr. Ma, "However, we can evaluate pain level and treat it, adjust home settings to help the pet maintain the daily routine, use acupuncture and herbal medicine as part of the multimodal approach to improve the quality of life."



One of the main focuses of veterinary hospice care is to evaluate the quality of life of patients continuously. Since our pets cannot tell us directly how they feel, it is important to have a veterinarian who is specialized in end-of-life care to guide, support, and educate pet owners how to assess whether the pets are

having good days vs bad days. The goal is to avoid premature euthanasia and ensure the pet is comfortable until the time that the pet dies naturally or until the need for euthanasia is determined by the owners with the help from hospice care professional and family.

Ma also provides in-home euthanasia as a conclusion of hospice care or a service where hospice care may not be appropriate or desired. This type of end-of-life care happens at home, which allows pets to spend their final moments in a place where they are comfortable, surrounded by people they love and trust. Although it's called "in-home" euthanasia, it can be also performed in the backyard, your pet's favorite park, or even at the beach, as long as it's somewhere quiet and comfortable for everyone.

"The pain of losing a pet can be intense. Having euthanasia at home makes the unbearable a bit more bearable by knowing your pet is not stressed out or scared at a strange place at the last moment. It helps starting the healing process earlier," Ma added.

**-Tiffany Ma, Compassion Pet Hospice**