

RAMP

NEWSLETTER

**JOIN NOW
HAVE YOUR SAY**

**INFLUENCE
THE FUTURE
OF YOUR
PROFESSION**



Image: Craig Payne and NEF

RAMP has continued with a packed schedule since the November 22 newsletter. I hope the work has taken us a step closer to gaining regulation of MSK allied professionals and the industry in general. Regulation which may take us closer to protection of titles and autonomous practitioner status for RAMP eligible MSK professionals.

Those of us that already work autonomously in human work perhaps take for granted the exemplary standards of professionalism that we must achieve each day. However gaining autonomy for animal practitioners is by no means a given, with many sceptical about how this may effect animal welfare. We must be even more robust to evidence we are responsible practitioners capable of delivering safe and competent care if we are going to achieve this aim and progress the professions.

By volunteering for RAMP registration, practitioners are stating they are willing to be accountable, furthermore, that professionalism is evidenced by making sure all communication is clear and effective, insurance and CPD is completed and recorded at renewals and practice is kept up to date and accountable.

Over the winter I have had productive meetings with the RCVS, BVA, BEVA and BSAVA who have all allocated RAMP contact people, which is important for continued communication and for RAMP to receive feedback from these groups. We have also been in contact with representatives of 10 other allied professions, such as the British Veterinary Nursing Association and the British Association of Equine Dentists to discuss policy and gain an understanding of how other professions are working towards regulation.

RAMP have presented a proposal to the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeon suggesting how regulation may work for our industry. This document was informed by the two surveys of the MSK industry conducted by RAMP and meetings with feedback from the 12 MSK Professional Associations who have members registered with RAMP and the three human statutory regulators. The document was acknowledged and well received but as yet, we have no detailed feedback from the RCVS to report.

RAMP was asked to evidence the problems practitioners and vets have in working within the current legislation and so conducted a survey in April to gain data. Thank you to the 426 respondents and a plea if you do see these surveys, please participate as the data is essential for RAMP to continue to represent the industry accurately .

And finally a note to say RAMP have been approached by several overseas MSK professional associations asking if there is a chance of RAMP International. That is a step to far at this stage, but we are collaborating to support our Canadian and US colleagues to set up their own versions. So watch this space!!

Wishing you all a lovely summer

Jo Paul

RAMP President



RAMP ATTENDED THE BRITISH SMALL ANIMAL VETERINARY ASSOCIATION CONGRESS (BSAVA 23) IN MANCHESTER ON MARCH 23RD-25TH.

We had a small stand but managed to source a very well populated corner with two very busy aisles on the two open sides. With the result we were visited by many Vets, Vet Nurses, practice managers and other industry stakeholders from both the UK and overseas.

Vav Simon, Jo Paul, Emma Fretwell attended the first day with Lucinda Stott replacing Emma for the second two days. Lucinda did a wonderful job on the social media posts keeping you all up to date with the events of the day and even set up a competition with prizes sent out to Julie Anne Griffiths and registrant Yasmin Willerton.

Di Messum who is an ACPAT member and RAMP registrant gave a talk at the British Veterinary Orthopaedic Association on the 22nd and although she was speaking about orthotics was able to give a quick overview of RAMP. With the result we had several prominent surgeons visit the stand at the Congress, a few from overseas looking for organisations similar to RAMP in their country.

In all we distributed almost all our giveaways of collapsible dog bowls, snoods and pens, so estimate we talked to over 400 veterinary professionals over the course of the three days.

We had a 100% positive response from all the practitioners we spoke to when they understood what RAMP was trying to achieve. Many vets came to look for us this year which may have been for our lovely freebies, but they did claim they wanted to find out for themselves what we were doing. Many were impressed that we were a voluntary regulatory body as they had thought previously were we another Professional Association and that would have just added to the already confusing market.

They stated they were relieved that RAMP did the due diligence on educational and professional standards and reassured they had someone to voice concerns to if they had a problem.

The stand was visited by Melissa Donald RCVS President, Julian Hoad and Lucy Irvine from the BSAVA Council and with Jo introducing RAMP in a meeting with Rachel Casey, Chair of the BSAVA scientific committee who is RAMP contact point with the BSAVA.

We felt we had a very positive Congress which we aim to repeat next year to consolidate RAMP presence with the small animal vet community.

Dr Vav Simon



BEVA

RAMP WILL BE ATTENDING BEVA CONGRESS 2023 AT THE ICC IN BIRMINGHAM ON SEPT 14TH-16TH. WE HOPE YOU WILL COME AND VISIT US ON STAND A31

COUNCIL UPDATE

The AGM is always a time of mixed feelings. On one hand we are sad to see Council members come to the end of their term and this year we said goodbye and thank you to Emma Owen our layperson and Faye Andrews an Osteopathic representative. Council work is a voluntary commitment and takes up a great deal of time, so we are hugely grateful to these two ladies who completed a double term.

On the other hand we welcome several new people as either full Council or Co-opted Council members.

Julia Brooks has kindly joined as a full Council member to look after the Osteopathic community within RAMP. She is helping us to help increase the availability of educational opportunities for those wishing to transfer their osteopathic skills to animals. We have also recruited James Harrison as lay person, who is a Chiropractor for humans, a business owner and has experience at board level on many professional associations. James is currently working to try and make sure RAMP registrants are on the provider lists of the many animal insurance companies.

In addition we have co-opted Lucinda Stott and Alice Frampton who are working on promoting the RAMP brand and running RAMP social media. Jenny Barron who is working within the education team and Emma Fretwell who is helping process any complaints that come into RAMP.

It is great to have some new energy on Council and hope it will motivate others to come forward to help.

COUNCIL MEMBER FOCUS: ALICE FRAMPTON

LOCATION: SOMERSET

DAY JOB: SELF-EMPLOYED VETERINARY PHYSIOTHERAPIST AND A MEMBER OF NAVP.

WHY DID YOU WANT TO JOIN THE RAMP TEAM?

I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN REALLY SUPPORTIVE OF WHAT RAMP ARE TRYING TO ACHIEVE, HAVING REDUCED MY PRACTICAL TREATING TIME DUE TO HAVING A BABY I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE A GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN MORE ABOUT WHAT GOES ON BEHIND THE SCENES AND KEEP MY BRAIN BUSY!

WHY SOCIAL MEDIA TEAM?

I CAN'T CLAIM TO BE SOCIAL MEDIA SAVVY, BUT I DID SAY I WAS WILLING TO HELP IN ANY WAY!

HOW ARE YOU HOPING TO IMPROVE RAMP SOCIAL MEDIA?

I AM KEEN TO MYTH BUST AND FIND OUT THE AREAS THAT MEMBERS AND POTENTIAL MEMBERS AREN'T SURE ABOUT, THEN EDUCATE VIA SOCIAL MEDIA.

HOW ARE YOU FINDING BEING A CO-OPTED COUNCIL MEMBER?

THE TEAM ARE EXTREMELY WELCOMING, AND I AM ENJOYING LEARNING ABOUT WHAT GOES ON BEHIND THE SCENES.

WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THE PROGRESS RAMP ARE MAKING WITH THE VETERINARY MSK PROFESSIONS?

RAMP HAVE MADE SOME GREAT PROGRESS TOWARDS REGULATION AND RAISING THE STANDARDS OF THE PROFESSION, VETS AND OWNERS IN MY LOCATION ARE AWARE AND REALLY POSITIVE ABOUT IT WHICH IS FANTASTIC.



Amanda Stears: Education Officers Update

It has been a busy few months in the education department with a regular flow of enquiries regarding entry to RAMP and individual mapping for applicants.

We have been delighted to welcome a new programme to RAMP with Harper Adams BSc (Hons) Veterinary Physiotherapy gaining accredited (AEP) status in March, meaning graduates from 2022 will be eligible for registration at graduation by providing their graduation certificate and proof of insurance. Those who graduated before 2021 will need to provide some further evidence of practical hours but are very welcome to apply. It's great to work with the HEI's to help improve educational standards and care. Congratulations to the team at Harper Adams led by Helen Morrell, Principal Manager in Veterinary Physiotherapy.

We are also excited to welcome 2 programmes from the McTimoney College with both their MSc Manipulation in Osteopathy and their Integrated MSc in Veterinary Chiropractic also being successful in reaching RAMP standards for AEP status. Congratulations to Professor Cunliffe and her team. We look forward to working with you.

As you may remember there has been some discussion on how we can help applicants who may not quite meet RAMP standards bridge the gap. Writtle University College have developed a 30-credit module called Professional Practice for Physiotherapists which offers top ups on core topics such as Professional Communication and Clinical Practice as well as a further 300 taught practical hours and further mentoring. This is a great opportunity to upskill and receive further mentoring for those new to the profession or who need further credits to meet RAMP standards. Its fully online so very accessible to all. Further details can be obtained from Writtle directly at <https://writtle.ac.uk/Professional-Practice-for-Veterinary-Physiotherapists>. Thank you to Robin Gill and the team for making this happen.

We do have another couple of HEI's currently looking for REP status so watch out for updates!

We will also be featuring RAMP accredited HEI's each week so look out for our social media feeds!

The team have also been on the road and attended open days at both Writtle University College and Bishop Burton, they enjoyed a warm welcome and were happy to receive many questions from students, we look forward to seeing you join the register!

Jo and Amanda also got together to record a short Q and A video for students about the RAMP and the benefits of becoming a member which has been sent to several of our HEI's and is available on request.

Amanda is being joined by Jenny Baron on the educational side to help with individual mapping enquires as they continue to grow, welcome Jenny!

RAMP Survey MSK Practitioners

92% OF REpondENTS
WERE EDUCATED TO
LEVEL 6/BSC AND ABOVE

ONLY 0.4% ALWAYS HAD
VET ASSESS AND
DIAGNOSE ANIMAL BEFORE
ASSESSMENT BUT 91%
HAVE MEANINGFUL
COMMUNICATION WITH
THE VETS

RAMP instigated a survey in April 2023 of the MSK industry
evidence how you acquired work and how you felt about
current regulation and legislation.
Thank you to the 426 repondents

91% would join a
regulatory body if they
were permitted to work
as autonomous
practitioners

2% OF REpondENTS WORK IN
THE SAME PHYSICAL LOCATION
AS VETS

ONLY 16% SAID THEY GET MOST OF
THEIR WORK FROM VET REFERRAL

Professional Associations and Regulatory Bodies

There is still some confusion around the difference between Professional Associations who represent specific groups of practitioners, are there to set standards for their members and support them with mentorship and CPD to work to achieve these standards. As opposed to Regulatory Bodies who set standards to protect the public and their animals therefore giving comfort to the whole industry that registrants are accountable to a register and that the register is completing the due diligence to make sure standards are met and maintained.

It is important to the progression of each profession in animal care that practitioners are affiliated to a Professional Association and a Voluntary Regulatory Body.

Professional Associations

Association of Animal Osteopathy
Association of Chartered Physiotherapists in Animal Therapy
British Chiropractic Association
British Veterinary Chiropractic Association
International Association of Animal Therapists
Institute of Osteopathy
Institute of Registered Veterinary Animal Physiotherapists
McTimoney Animal Association
McTimoney Chiropractic Association
Mc Timoney Corley Chiropractic Association
National Association of Veterinary Physiotherapists
Royal College of Chiropractors- Animal Faculty
United Chiropractic Association
Chartered Society of Physiotherapy

Statutory Regulators in Human Care

General Chiropractic Council
General Osteopathic Council
Health and Care Professions Council

Voluntary Registers in Animal Care

Allied Health Professions Register
Register of Animal Musculoskeletal Practitioners

STATUTORY REGULATION IS ESSENTIAL TO ENABLE YOU TO PRACTICE WITH HUMANS . REGISTERING WITH A VOLUNTARY REGULATORY BODY EVIDENCES YOU ARE WILLING TO HAVE YOUR PRACTICE SCRUTINISED BUT IS NOT ESSETIAL FOR YOU TO BE ABLE TO PRACTICE

NEWS FROM THE PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

NAVVP

It was lovely to meet the new incoming Co-Chairs for NAVVP, Pippa Winkworth and Sarah Keith they have exciting ideas to take the organisation forward and we look forward to working alongside them and wish them every success with their plans in the coming years.

IRVAP

IRVAP have announced a new multidisciplinary seminar on October 27th 2023, at the Leonardo Hinckley Island Hotel, Burbage. RAMP will be attending with a stand.

Insurance

We are aware that these insurance companies currently recognises RAMP registrants as providers but there is still much work to do to ensure this is an industry standard clause. James Harrison and Vav Simon continue to liaise with a number of insurers and underwriters to ensure that RAMP registrants are accepted on insurance claims. We are hoping to speak with one of the largest underwriters in the next few months to assist with this. Please keep us informed if you come across a company that does not accept RAMP registrants as providers.

AGRIA

ANIMAL FRIENDS

HEALTHY PETS

JOHN LEWIS

KBIS

MANY PETS

PETPLAN

VETSURE

WAGGEL

2023 RENEWALS

Renewals have gone very well this year with only a slight hiccup, that the loading of some insurance documentation has taken a couple of tries, we will work with the developers to make this better for next year.

RAMP sent out guidance on how to fill in your CPD submissions via email and social media, this guidance is also held within your Download file in your RAMP account.

We cannot emphasise enough how important it is for everyone to complete a full CPD log of 25hours per year, with reflections. RAMP needs to evidence each, and every registrant is working to gold standard and this is one way registrants can assist by proving they accept professional responsibility by taking care to complete the renewal requirements as fully and quickly as possible.

National Equine Forum (NEF 23)

RAMP were delighted to be invited to present the topical slot at NEF 23 in the presence of HRH The Princess Royal at the Institute of Mechanical Engineers in London. Jo Paul and Vav Simon represented RAMP at the forum which brings together stakeholders from all areas of the equine welfare industry and Jo presented an overview of RAMP policies. The presentation was received extremely positively and the firm put RAMP into focus as a voluntary regulatory body in equine care.

The new RAMP social media team of Lucinda Stott and Alice Frampton are building a slick and professional brand for RAMP. They have been covering all the RAMP activity on our public pages and also keeping registrants informed of important dates on the private group.

We would ask all registrants to like the public Facebook page RAMP-Register of Animal Musculoskeletal Practitioners and invite all their contacts to follow the page. In this way you will spread the word about RAMP registration which will not only support RAMP but also highlight all registrants as highly skilled and accountable practitioners.



SAVE THE DATE!

REGISTRANTS Q&A

RAMP have started a new initiative by hosting a Registrants Q&A via Zoom, the first took part on March 30th and the second is planned for Aug 3rd 2023 at 7.30pm.

These forums are open to all RAMP registrants and give a chance for questions to be put to the RAMP Council.

Gallery



**Come together
for Congress '23**

