Chronic pain is unlike acute pain, it lasts beyond the time necessary for healing and resists normal treatment. No one patient feels pain in the same way and yet in veterinary medicine the patient’s gain is generally assessed based on a single standard. There is an increasing focus in veterinary medicine on measuring and resolving pain and suffering. This focus is being supported by an increased understanding of pain neurophysiology, a greater offering of innovative pharmacological treatments, and consumer demand.

This book goes beyond common protocols by focusing on the latest evidence and our understanding of ‘why and how to treat’. It describes and evaluates current physiological and biochemical theories of pain transmission, without losing sight of the practical need for such information and provides a foundation for advances in animal care and welfare.