



## Category 1: Physical and Emotional

### MANDATORY

**1.11 If training and/or behavior modification is provided at the practice, either by a practice team member or an outside provider, techniques must be free from aversives and adhere to scientific principles for humane handling.**

**1.12 If the practice refers clients to a trainer in the community, the trainer's techniques must be free from aversives and adhere to scientific principles for humane handling. First -hand experience is **HIGHLY** recommended.**

*standards will be considered to have been met if N/A is selected*

- Aversives include confrontational or frightening human-pet interactions. Examples are physical corrections such as jerking leashes or swatting and verbal reprimands such as shouting “No!”, startling stimuli such as spraying pets with water bottles, directing sonic stimuli toward pets (air horns, shake cans, or ultrasonic devices), throwing items at the pet, and training tools such as prong, pinch, choke, electric stimulation (shock), and citronella collars.<sup>1</sup>
- Fear Free **STRONGLY** recommends you have recent, first-hand experience with any trainer you recommend.

*Resources include but are not limited to:*

- Fear Free Podcast: ‘Why Trainers & Veterinary Professionals Should Work Together’
- Fear Free Webinar: ‘There are no Fear Free trainers near me – how do I meet the trainer standards?’
- AAHA Canine and Feline Behavior Management Guidelines
- <https://spca.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/AnimalKind-Dog-Training-Standards.pdf>