

European Equine Assisted Therapy Network - Physiotherapy Sub-group

Therapist's knowledge, skills and competences - Other important topics in EAPT*

1. Continuous professional development = take responsibility for developing their knowledge		
Knowledge	Skills	Competence
- To have knowledge of the treatment mechanisms.	- To be able to adjust practice according to recognised treatments.	- To apply physiotherapy theory and practice when incorporating an equine in EAPT.
- To have knowledge of evidence-based practice for EAPT.	- To be able to conduct a literature search and review published papers on EAPT.	- To apply up-to-date information to one's own practice.
- To have knowledge of the history and development of EAPT nationally and internationally.	- To be able to collaborate and respect cultural differences in EAPT.	- To be non-judgmental, open and willing to learn from colleagues nationally and internationally.
- To have knowledge of how to evaluate one's own practice by reflection and discussion with others.	- To be able to accurately and honestly evaluate one's own practice.	- Following reflection to continually improve one's own practice.
- To have knowledge of the benefits of supervision or mentorship.	- To be able to discuss professional issues with a supervisor or a mentor.	- To apply the knowledge gained from supervision or mentorship to one's own practice.
- To have knowledge of the importance of maintaining and developing professional competence through structured CPD**.	- To be able to access relevant CPD training.	- To take responsibility for maintaining and developing professional competence through structured CPD.
2. Laws, the concept of EAPT and other Interventions		
Knowledge	Skills	Competence
- To have knowledge of the importance of GDPR***, equine welfare and national legislation regarding how we practice EAPT.	- To be able to apply the knowledge of the importance of GDPR, equine welfare and national legislation to one's own practice.	- To practise EAPT within the therapist's national legal framework, professional code of conduct, and equine welfare requirements, while understanding how EAPT is defined and practised internationally.
- To have knowledge of the history and development of EAPT in one's own country and internationally.	- To be able to understand and evaluate the different approaches to EAPT internationally.	- To be open and understanding of the different approaches to EAPT internationally.
- To have knowledge of equestrian activities available to participants and athletes with special needs - competitions, riding for sport or leisure.	- To be aware of therapeutic or adaptive riding, para-equestrian sport, undertaken by participants and athletes with special needs.	- To facilitate the transfer of clients from EAPT to other equestrian activities.
3. EAPT as opportunities to practice		
Knowledge	Skills	Competence
- To have basic knowledge of how to set up and run a practice.	- To have an understanding of planning, pricing, and financial management and to have good organisational skills.	- To support sustainable service delivery through appropriate planning, pricing, and financial management, without compromising clinical quality or equine welfare.

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- To have knowledge of the options of different operating models to practice EAPT – e.g. NGO, private clinic, health care centres, association with hospitals, etc.	- To be able to select the best option for setting up one's own EAPT practice.	- To run the selected option.
- To have knowledge of marketing	- To be able to inform the public, clients and other healthcare professionals about EAPT.	- To promote one's own EAPT services using a variety of platforms.
- To have knowledge of the need to educate and spread information about evidence-based EAPT practice to governing bodies and a variety of audiences.	- To be able to effectively present evidence-based facts to governing bodies and a variety of audiences regarding one's own EAPT practice.	- To effectively present evidence-based facts to governing bodies and a variety of audiences regarding one's own EAPT practice.

*EAPT – Equine Assisted Physiotherapy

**CPD – Continuous Professional Development

***GDPR – General Data Protection Regulation

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