Changing lives through learning

Qualification Unit

This unit forms part of a regulated qualification.

Unit Title: Applied Equine Physiotherapy

Unit Reference Number: A/651/9006

Level: Six (6)

Credit Value: 30

Minimum Guided Learning Hours: 100

The primary aims of this unit are:

- To enhance the learner's capacity to critically appraise equine scientific and clinical research and literature relevant to the field of equine physiotherapy.
- To promote the learner's skills in developing appropriate treatment programmes, through reflective practice, discussion with tutors and experts and from scientific literature
- To encourage the learner to relate knowledge of basic science (e.g. anatomy and physiology) with applied knowledge gained from placements and applied modules to formulate physiotherapy-relevant treatment goals.

This unit includes 174 practical hours. Of these hours 17 are included in the GLH of the unit and assessed through study week. The other 155 are to be completed independent and should be real-life practice hours and recorded in the Practical Skills Log (PSL).

Learning Outcome (The Learner will):	Assessment Criterion (The Learner can):
1. Understand the scientific and clinical research and literature relevant to the field of equine physiotherapy	1.1 Analyse current research in the field of equine physiotherapy
	1.2 Evaluate three selected topics relevant to the field of equine physiotherapy
2. Be able to develop appropriate therapy plans for horses with specific problems	2.1 Design effective rehabilitation programmes for two equine patients with contrasting issues
	2.2 Carry out effective rehabilitation programmes for two equine patients with contrasting issues identified in 2.1

Learning Outcome (The Learner will):	Assessment Criterion (The Learner can):
	2.3 Carry out a physical assessment of an equine patient
	2.4 Carry out an effective treatment protocol for the patient assessed in 2.3
3. Understand the correlation between equine scientific and clinical research, and the application of equine physiotherapy	3.1 Assess how developments in equine physiotherapy are influenced by equine scientific and clinical research
	3.2 Explain how evidence-based research could be considered in the design process of two rehabilitation programmes

Indicative Content	
LO1	**AC 1.1, AC 1.2** Could include analysis of relevant scientific literature and clinical research from appropriate journals, for example but not limited to the Equine Veterinary Journal, Journal of Equine Veterinary Science, Comparative Exercise Physiology, the Veterinary Journal, Journal of Equine Rehabilitation.
LO2	**AC 2.1, AC 2.2** Could include patient evaluation, preparation of treatment goals using appropriate time scales, planning treatment whilst considering general contra-indications and case-specific limitations. **AC 2.3, AC 2.4** Could include physical assessment of an unknown patient, so that the learner can decide the most effective treatment protocol(s) for that patient. The learner will then carry out the protocol on the patient, communicating to the owner their rationale for the chosen treatment. This may include recommendations for future treatments.
LO3	**AC 3.1, AC 3.2** Could include the influence of research relevant to the field of equine physiotherapy on current practices and application. Areas in which physiotherapy research is lacking; for example, but not limited to, low number of studies, study quality, integrity of research, bias and the use of expert opinions in treatment approaches which may not be evidence-based. **AC 3.2** Learners will explain how evidence-based research was considered in the design of the two rehabilitation programmes in AC 2.1.