Equine competences in EFPT work

1. Equine movement and conformation and its impact on client's movement in EFPT		
 Knowledge In order to understand biomechanics, the therapist needs to understand equine anatomy, conformation and movement, and the effect it has on the client. 	 Skills to observe and analyse In order to provide an effective therapy session, the therapist must have the skills to analyse the movement that is produced by the equine and its effect on the client The therapist must have the skills to assess the conformation of equines and its effect on the client position. Skills to alter equine movement according to the client's needs In order to influence the equine movement, the therapist must have the ability to analyse and regulate the equine movement 	 Competence The ability to select an appropriate equine with the required movement and conformation according to the client's needs and the required therapy outcome The ability to influence the equine movement in order to meet the desired response in the client
2. Equine behaviour in EFPT		
 Knowledge In order to provide a safe therapy session, the therapist must have knowledge of standard equine behaviour patterns and reaction to different stimuli. The therapist must know the signs of the equine body language and appreciation of equine temperament. 	 Observation skills In order to ensure safe practice, the therapist must have the ability to assess equine behaviour and body language. 	 Competence The ability to observe and evaluate equine body language and behaviour during the therapy session and, if necessary, to manage the team to ensure safe practice.
3. Training the equine in EFPT		
 Knowledge In order to achieve an effective therapy session, the therapist needs to be aware of training methods to ensure the equine will accept clients with different disabilities. The equine must be trained to work in hand (leading, lunging and long-reining) and under the client's control (with saddle and bridle) in all situations in EFPT. 	 Skills In order to provide an effective therapy session, the therapist must have the skills to recognise the need for correct training and the ability to communicate with the person responsible for the training. 	 Competence The ability to recognise a well-trained equine for different therapy purposes. The ability to demonstrate to the equine trainer any further training that might be needed for an effective and safe therapy session.
4. Equine welfare and fitness to work in EFPT		
 Knowledge In order to maintain the physical and mental health of the therapy equine, the therapist needs to have a knowledge of equine welfare to keep the equine fit for the purpose, safe and long-term working. 	 Skills In order to maintain the physical and mental health of the therapy equine, the therapist must be able to observe the signs of good health and fitness of the equine and the ability to communicate with the person responsible for the care of the equine. 	 Competence The ability to recognise a healthy and content therapy equine The ability to alter stable management or the work program of therapy equine if there are signs of discontent

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5. Health and Safety in the equine environment in EFPT			
 Knowledge In order to provide a safe therapy session, the therapist must know what the risks in EFPT are and how to assess the equine and its environment. 	 Skills to provide a safe therapy session To provide a safe therapy session, the therapist must have skills to carry out a risk assessment of the equine and the environment and then manage and minimise the risks. In order to provide a safe therapy session, the therapist must have the skills to direct the team members in the safe handling of the equine and the client. 	 Competence The ability to carry out and record a comprehensive risk assessment for a safe therapy session. The ability to minimise any risk identified and to manage the team to work safely The ability to carry out and demonstrate safe practice throughout the therapy session 	
6. Tack and equipment for the equine and client in EFPT			
 Knowledge In order to provide an effective therapy session, the therapist must know what tack and equipment is appropriate for both the equine and the client and to know how to fit it correctly. 	 Skills to select the proper and the equipment In order to provide an effective therapy session, the therapist must have the ability to choose what tack and equipment is appropriate for both the equine and the client and to be able to fit it correctly and safely. In order to provide an effective therapy session, the therapist must have the ability to select the appropriate mounting facility and other equipment. 	 Competence The ability to use clinical reasoning to select appropriate tack and equipment for client and equine and to fit it correctly. 	