

Module code: MOD011032	Version: 1 Date Amended: 13/Nov/2025
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1. Module Title
Advancing Equine Clinical Skills and Professional Development

2a. Module Leader
Robin Gill

2b. School
Writtle School of Agriculture, Animal and Environmental Sciences

2c. Faculty
Faculty of Science and Engineering

3a. Level
7

3b. Module Type
Theory and practice (fine graded)

4a. Credits
30

4b. Study Hours
300

5. Restrictions			
Type	Module Code	Module Name	Condition
Pre-requisite:	MOD011031	Advanced Equine Therapy: Manual, Electrophysical agents, and Exercise Prescription	Compulsory
Pre-requisite:	MOD011011	Applied Techniques in Equine Massage, Rehabilitation and Hydrotherapy	Compulsory
Co-requisites:	None		
Exclusions:	None		
Courses to which this module is restricted:	BSc Equine sports therapy and rehabilitation, BSc Animal Therapy, rehabilitation and performance, BSc Canine Therapy rehabilitation and performance. MVetphys Veterinary Physiotherapy, Canine and Equine		

LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

6a. Module Description
This module focuses on integrating advanced therapeutic techniques and a comprehensive understanding of musculoskeletal conditions in equine to help you develop and critically assess rehabilitation plans within a clinical setting. You'll enhance your clinical skills, case management abilities and specialised skill sets, ensuring you experience a holistic approach to patient care, including ethical treatment and management practices. A key aspect of this module is patient-centred care, where you'll learn to create individualised treatment plans tailored to each equine patient's unique needs. You'll collaborate with multidisciplinary teams, such as veterinarians, farriers, and trainers, will be emphasised, fostering comprehensive care and effective client communication and education strategies to empower you and your patients throughout their treatment journey. Additionally, this module will support your professional growth and development by encouraging engagement in continuing education and the pursuit of professional certification. You'll practice reflective methods and self-assessment to promote personal and professional growth, while also developing leadership skills within the field of equine veterinary physiotherapy for both clients and horses throughout their rehabilitation journey. Professionalism and collaboration with interdisciplinary teams will be central to improving equine patient outcomes and achieving optimal clinical results. Furthermore, this module cultivates advanced interpersonal and business management skills, enabling effective communication and successful operations within a physiotherapy practice. By combining your theoretical knowledge with practical application, you'll be thoroughly prepared to excel as an equine physiotherapist and leader in the field. By completing this module, you'll need to demonstrate a mastery in the critical enquiry, digital, practical and clinical skills, while ensuring professional integrity is upheld.

6b. Outline Content
This module is designed to advance personal clinical skills and facilitate the identification of areas for personal development in equine veterinary physiotherapy, including effective planning for continued professional growth. Students will cultivate personal resilience skills and develop interpersonal and communication abilities, enabling them to engage confidently with a diverse range of equine clients and members of multidisciplinary teams. The module also explores the fundamentals of equine practice start-up and maintenance, emphasising the importance of staying current and relevant in the field of equine physiotherapy. A strong focus on lifelong learning will encourage students to continuously seek opportunities for professional development.

Additionally, students will learn to integrate knowledge from various modules throughout the course, enabling them to formulate evidence-based case management plans for equines that reflect best practices in veterinary physiotherapy. Through this comprehensive approach, students will be well-prepared to navigate the complexities of clinical practice and enhance their effectiveness as equine physiotherapy practitioners.

Patient Evaluation and Clinical Reasoning

- **Patient Assessment:** Conduct comprehensive evaluations of equine patients, focusing on postural and adaptive changes and their interrelation with underlying pathology, injury, or musculoskeletal disorders specific to equines.
- **Clinical Reasoning:** Employ advanced clinical reasoning to substantiate the integration of sophisticated manual techniques, electrotherapies, and remedial exercises tailored to equine patients to optimise recovery and performance outcomes.
- **Interdisciplinary Communication:** Articulate and justify the rationale for therapeutic interventions to members of the multidisciplinary team (MDT), including equine veterinarians, farriers, and trainers, ensuring cohesive collaboration for optimal patient care.
- **Demonstrated Competence:** Exhibit proficiency in both practical application and verbal communication of clinical skills and treatment strategies, ensuring clear understanding within the multidisciplinary team.

Business and Personal Development

- **Importance of Continuing Professional Development:** Acknowledge the critical role of ongoing professional development in enhancing clinical practice and advancing a career in equine physiotherapy.
- **Business Acumen:** Collaborate with business mentors and equine physiotherapy professionals to refine understanding of essential business elements such as equine clinic start-up, marketing, client management, and service delivery.
- **Reflective Practice:** Master reflective practice techniques, recognising their significance in fostering effective business practices, continuous learning, and personal development within the equine physiotherapy field.
- **Interdisciplinary Team Awareness:** Develop a nuanced understanding of the roles and responsibilities of various members within the equine multidisciplinary team, facilitating professional interactions with veterinarians, trainers, and other paraprofessionals.
- **Develop:** sustainable business practice to ensure industry success and wider awareness of environmental considerations within the animal industry.

Case Management and Treatment

- **Effective Communication with Clients:** Cultivate advanced communication skills to effectively relay complex information and instruction to equine owners, trainers, and veterinary colleagues about treatment plans and expected outcomes.
- **Information Dissemination:** Demonstrate the ability to convey critical treatment information clearly, compassionately, and efficiently to equine owners, ensuring they understand the rehabilitation process.
- **Time Management:** Implement effective time management strategies during patient treatment to maximise clinical efficiency while managing multiple equine cases.
- **Legal and Ethical Framework:** Comprehend the legal frameworks governing practice within equine veterinary physiotherapy and maintain rigorous standards of record-keeping, ensuring ethical and professional care.
- **Team Integration:** Seamlessly integrate into clinical teams, contributing to collaborative treatment strategies, including working closely with the equine veterinary team, trainers, and farriers for holistic care.
- **Core Competencies:** Attain mastery of the essential competencies required for effective equine physiotherapy practice from the outset of professional training, ensuring confidence in assessing and treating a range of equine musculoskeletal conditions.

6c. Key Texts/Literature

The reading list to support this module is available at: <https://readinglists.aru.ac.uk/>

6d. Specialist Learning Resources

Horses/ hydrotherapy facilities/ remedial exercise equipment/ electrotherapies/ access to external yards/ physio software/ gait analysis equipment.

7. Learning Outcomes (threshold standards)

No.	Type	On successful completion of this module the student will be expected to be able to:
1	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Integrate advanced therapeutic techniques and knowledge of musculoskeletal conditions to formulate, critically evaluate and apply comprehensive treatment strategies.
2	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Exhibit professionalism and sustainability in collaboration with interdisciplinary teams to enhance patient care and achieve optimal clinical outcomes.
3	Knowledge and Understanding	Cultivate advanced interpersonal and business management skills to facilitate effective communication and successful operations in a physiotherapy practice.
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Master evidence-based interventions for diverse patients, adapting approaches to suit varying scenarios and individual patient needs, within the clinical context.
5	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Utilise ongoing professional development and reflective practice to enhance clinical skills, assess outcomes, and improve patient care in veterinary physiotherapy.

8a. Module Occurrence to which this MDF Refers

Year	Occurrence	Period	Location	Mode of Delivery
2026/7	ZZF	Template For Face To Face Learning Delivery		

8b. Learning Activities for the above Module Occurrence			
Learning Activities	Hours	Learning Outcomes	Details of Duration, frequency and other comments
Lectures	48	1,2,4,5	Theory taught content taught once a week 12 x 4hrs
Other teacher managed learning	124	1-5	Practical taught sessions and Clinical rotations - These hours are in addition to module hours to meet PSRB requirements. 12 x 7hrs plus 40 hrs PSRB
Student managed learning	168	1-5	Case based, learning, independent research, critical appraisal, CPC planning, reflective practice,
TOTAL:	340		

9. Assessment for the above Module Occurrence					
The assessment for some modules includes a presentation (see below for details on how this particular module is assessed). We recognise that presenting, especially to a large group, can cause significant anxiety or distress for some students. If this may affect you, please contact your Module Leader or the Disability and Neurodiversity Service as early as possible. We will work with you to consider appropriate reasonable adjustments. Depending on your individual needs, these might include, for example, presenting to a smaller group or presenting only to a member of academic staff.					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
010	Coursework	1-5	100 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
Coursework: Clinical Portfolio					

Assessment components for Element 010				
Component No.	Assessment Title	Submission Method	Weighting (%)	Components needed for Mark Calculation?
010/1	Clinical Portfolio		90 (%)	All
010/2	Near Peer led teaching		10 (%)	

Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
011	Practical	1-5	0 (%)	Pass/Fail	100 (%)

Examination: Clinical competency exam

In order to pass this module, students are required to achieve an overall mark of 40% (for modules at levels 3, 4, 5 and 6) or 50% (for modules at level 7*).

In addition, students are required to:

- (a) achieve the qualifying mark for each element of fine graded assessment as specified above
- (b) pass any pass/fail elements

[* the pass mark of 50% applies for all module occurrences from the academic year 2024/25 – see Section 3a of this MDF to check the level of the module and Section 8a of this MDF to check the academic year]