

Level 4 Diploma in Canine Hydrotherapy



Canine Therapies Academy

Learners will develop study skills and engage in reflective practice, enhance clinical reasoning and critical thinking, understand the importance of working within their scope of practice and recognise the legal, ethical and professional standards required of a professional canine hydrotherapist.

In addition, they will understand the contextual nature of canine behaviour, the ethical responsibility of working with consent and the importance of therapeutic handling techniques. They will also learn about canine functional anatomy and biomechanics and the pathophysiology of common canine conditions and breed biology. Further details are shown below.

Whilst theoretical work can be accessed remotely Canine Therapies is always willing to deliver training face-to-face. There is a requirement of at least 10 days practical training which can be divided up as needed.

This qualification is fully endorsed by IRVAP.

Structure of this qualification:

9 mandatory units:

1. Clinical Risk Assessment, Health Monitoring and First Aid
2. Water Management and Sustainable Practice
3. Professional Practice
4. Canine Functional Anatomy and Biomechanics
5. Conditions Presented for Hydrotherapy
6. Canine Behaviour, Enrichment and Therapeutic Handling
7. Clinical Reasoning and Assessment Processes
8. Advanced Techniques for Aquatic Treadmill Therapy
9. Advanced Techniques for Hydrotherapy Pool Treatment

<p>Unit 1: CLINICAL RISK ASSESSMENT, HEALTH MONITORING AND FIRST AID</p>	<p>This unit will equip learners with a thorough understanding of CRA, health monitoring, appropriate health checks and canine emergency first aid, to support the health and welfare of patients undergoing treatment.</p> <p>It includes effective risk assessments to ensure a safe clinical environment and the ability to justify the use of hydrotherapy as a treatment modality.</p> <p>It also includes the identification and management of emergency first aid situations within professional responsibilities and scope of practice.</p>
<p>Unit 2: WATER MANAGEMENT AND SUSTAINABLE PRACTICE</p>	<p>This unit is intended to equip learners with the knowledge and understanding necessary for effective water testing and developing actionable solutions, fulfilling professional and legal responsibilities.</p> <p>Adhering to legal frameworks and implementing effective policies and protocols for safe, up-to-date practices is a fundamental requirement for veterinary healthcare professionals.</p>
<p>Unit 3: PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE</p>	<p>In this unit learners will develop an understanding of their professional obligations, responsibilities and accountability as practitioners. They will explore potential moral and ethical conflicts which may arise in clinical practice, highlighting the importance of working within their scope and recognising their limitations. This unit fosters professionalism by developing effective communication skills essential for working within a multi-disciplinary team.</p>
<p>Unit 4: CANINE FUNCTIONAL ANATOMY AND BIOMECHANICS</p>	<p>In this unit learners will develop a comprehensive understanding of canine functional anatomy and biomechanics, essential for conducting accurate assessments and delivering effective clinical hydrotherapy treatments.</p>
<p>Unit 5: Conditions Presented for Hydrotherapy</p>	<p>In this unit learners will develop an understanding of breed biology and the predisposition of specific breeds to common canine conditions.</p> <p>Learners will gain insight into the normal conformation of various breeds and how specific pathophysiological conditions affect balance and movement in relation to common ailments and musculoskeletal injuries.</p> <p>They will also learn how to identify inefficient secondary movement patterns and sequences that develop in different cases and understand the impact these have on the overall health and well-being of affected canines.</p>
<p>Unit 6: CANINE BEHAVIOUR, ENRICHMENT AND THERAPEUTIC HANDLING</p>	<p>In this unit learners will develop their knowledge and understanding of canine behaviour within the context of the hydrotherapy environment. Learners will also develop the skills to assess and apply canine therapeutic handling techniques and clinic enrichment strategies.</p>

<p>Unit 7: CLINICAL REASONING AND ASSESSMENT PROCESSES</p>	<p>In this unit learners will gain the knowledge and skills needed to conduct comprehensive assessments within a clinically reasoned framework ensuring accurate and reliable findings.</p> <p>They will effectively evaluate risks, assess the suitability of patients for hydrotherapy treatment, gather relevant data and apply clinical reasoning processes to analyse the information.</p> <p>They will develop a clear understanding of how the assessment process relates to safe practice, emphasising the importance of working within their professional competencies and scope.</p>
<p>Unit 8: ADVANCED TECHNIQUES FOR AQUATIC TREADMILL THERAPY</p>	<p>In this unit learners will develop their clinical competencies and proprioceptive treatment techniques when using an aquatic treadmill, focussing on achieving a positive outcome for each patient.</p> <p>Learners will apply their knowledge of assessment, behaviour, functional anatomy, breed biology and pathophysiology of underlying conditions to make informed decisions when selecting treatment techniques.</p> <p>They will combine clinical theory with practical application in order to create tailored plans which address the individual needs of each patient.</p>
<p>Unit 9: ADVANCED TECHNIQUES FOR HYDROTHERAPY POOL TREATMENT</p>	<p>In this unit learners will develop their clinical competencies and proprioceptive treatment techniques when using a hydrotherapy pool, focussing on achieving a positive outcome for each patient.</p> <p>Learners will apply their knowledge of assessment, behaviour, functional anatomy, breed biology and pathophysiology of underlying conditions to make informed decisions when selecting treatment techniques.</p> <p>They will combine clinical theory with practical application in order to create tailored plans which address the individual needs of each patient.</p>