

Top 10 questions to ask when providing therapy services at a facility that provides adaptive/therapeutic riding.

1. Is there a clear agreement on who is responsible for the equipment involved in the therapy service?
2. Is the American Hippotherapy Association's Code of Ethics and terminology currently endorsed by the facility?
3. Is equine welfare a distinct value at the facility?
4. Does the licensed therapist have complete autonomy in the decision-making for their patients, including frequency of care, discontinuation of care, and documentation?
5. Is terminology differentiating between therapy services (e.g., PT/OT/ST/psychotherapy) and adaptive riding used correctly by all individuals employed by or associated with the facility?
6. Do all facility communications and marketing materials, especially those involving you as a licensed therapist, follow AHA, Inc. recommended terminology?
7. Are there safety protocols and emergency procedures in place for all members of the treatment team within the therapy session and at the facility at large?
8. Does the selection of horses currently available for therapy services represent a variety of healthy horses who have been specifically trained to provide consistent medical quality equine movement necessary for therapy.
9. Are there training and conditioning protocols in place for horses who are providing medical quality equine movement during therapy sessions
10. Is there a clearly defined space for the licensed therapist to provide therapy away from the horse?