

English Abstracts

Quality uncertainty in view of horse assisted therapy: A survey among equestrians

Katharina Wiegand

Systematic quality labels have not yet come to a high distribution in the area of horse assisted therapy. Still they could be a helpful tool for suppliers as well as patients in terms of communication and orientation. A survey designed at the University of Gottingen shows that the majority of riders and horse owners feels uncertain in assessing horse assisted therapy and agrees that suppliers with a high quality standard should be certified.

Especially federations in the equestrian sector are seen as appropriate institutions for awarding certifications. The results offer practical implications for the development of a labeling system for horse assisted therapy.

Keywords: customer orientation, horse assisted therapy, quality management, quality uncertainty, labeling

Equine-assisted activities and therapy from the perspective of people with multiple sclerosis: relevance and therapeutic effects

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Subject of the present study, conducted within the context of a bachelor thesis, is the personal view of relevance and therapeutic effects of equine-assisted activities and therapy (EAAT) for people with multiple sclerosis (MS). Participants were questioned at a day with respectively without EAAT about personal significance of EAAT, the role of the horse in such settings and the relevance of the horse for therapeutic success.

The data indicate that EAAT for people with MS lead to a reduction of symptoms and an increase of well-being. Seen from their perspective it is the holistic approach of the therapy, the presence of the horse and the pleasure of the therapy which make EAAT to a significant therapy for people with MS.

Keywords: Multiple sclerosis, complementary therapy of MS, equine-assisted activities and therapy (EAAT), well being

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