

## What is Canine Movement Enrichment?

*Movement Enrichment techniques* are a range of integrated treatment strategies to build a professional therapeutic bond and connection with each dog, to positively influence their behaviours and movement.

The aim is to achieve a focused and calm dog working with you actively and in natural balanced motion. This highly *proprioceptively enriched* experience leads to significant improvement in the dog's movement and functional activities.

This can be a “stand alone” *proprioceptive treatment technique* as well as a clinical method to ensure your treatment plan is cohesive and is received positively, with the dog choosing to actively engage with the therapist, following their guidance and instruction.



## What is Clinic Enrichment (CE)?

**Clinic Enrichment (CE) techniques** are a fusion of environmental, behavioural and movement enrichment in a canine clinical setting. It focuses on the needs of each dog and owner and is a way to positively influence the dog's movement and behaviours in your physiotherapy and hydrotherapy inpatient and outpatient services.



CE is not just about a collection of equipment or the layout of the clinic. The therapist uses CE to reason out how to use the clinical space and equipment, linked to their own body posturing and movement decisions. This aims to optimise the clinic environment and positively engage the dog's *proprioceptive system* (PS) which is the *command centre* for canine movement and power.

By directly mapping into canine functional anatomy and behaviour, the therapist can positively influence the dog's *natural balanced movement* and choices.

## **Therapeutic Handling Treatment techniques**

These are a fusion of Ttouch approaches, Neurodevelopmental Key Points of Control, Movement Shaping techniques, Therapeutic Lead work and Body Awareness work which includes sensorimotor techniques.

It's a proprioceptive enriched way to work with the dog as it maps directly into both how a dog communicates and how it organises its movement. This calm and focused connection assists the dog in working with the therapist and participating actively in the therapeutic assessment and treatment programme. This is a dog centric strategy that improves canine movement and positively modifies their behaviour in the clinical setting, supporting the therapist to make *every therapeutic touch count*.

Techniques include therapeutic touches, therapeutic holds, therapeutic lifts, Movement Shaping techniques (Terra and Aqua), Proprioceptive Paw Placements (PPP) and so much more.....



## Contact

**Barbara Houlding**

K9HS Courses

E-mail [info@k9hscourses.com](mailto:info@k9hscourses.com)

[www.k9hscourses.com](http://www.k9hscourses.com)