



**Australian Government**

# **ACMEQD501 Relate equine masticatory system to oral function, conditions and their health impacts**

**Release: 1**

## ACMEQD501 Relate equine masticatory system to oral function, conditions and their health impacts

### Modification History

| Release   | Comments                                                                                |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Release 1 | This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 5.0. |

### Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to assess the equine masticatory system, and evaluate efficiency and impact of oral conditions on equine health. It includes knowledge of the anatomy and physiology of the equine head, oral structures and dentition, and their relationship to general health.

The unit applies to individuals working as equine dental technicians who use practical skills and knowledge to perform equine dental treatments and oral care across a range of industry sectors involving equines. They work autonomously and apply in-depth, technical knowledge and skills to provide and communicate solutions for predictable and unpredictable problems.

Commonwealth and state/territory health and safety and animal welfare legislation, regulations and codes of practice relevant to interacting with horses apply to workers in this industry. Requirements vary between industry sectors and jurisdictions.

State/territory veterinary practice legislation, restricted acts of veterinary science, and pharmacy, controlled drugs and prohibited substance legislation apply to the scope of work of equine dental technicians. These vary according to jurisdictions.

### Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

### Unit Sector

Equine Dentistry (EQD)

### Elements and Performance Criteria

| Elements                                         | Performance Criteria                                                                                   |
|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i> | <i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i> |

| Elements                                                                                                  | Performance Criteria                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>                                                          | <i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 1. Identify and locate equine oral cavity structures                                                      | <p>1.1 Locate structures of the equine head and oral cavity, and identify their functions</p> <p>1.2 Identify and record location and structure of equine teeth and related supporting anatomy using appropriate notation system</p> <p>1.3 Identify developmental stages and eruption of teeth in equine life stages from birth to maturity in equine</p> <p>1.4 Identify genetic, congenital and developmental dental abnormalities relating to the eruption, development and wear of teeth</p>                                            |
| 2. Relate prehensile and masticatory function to teeth types                                              | <p>2.1 Relate the process of prehension and mastication of food to normal oral function, including influence of different food types</p> <p>2.2 Identify functions of equine teeth and associated supportive and connective structures</p> <p>2.3 Identify stages of development and eruption of equine teeth</p> <p>2.4 Identify abnormalities of development and eruption</p>                                                                                                                                                              |
| 3. Age equine by interpreting tooth eruption, dental wear patterns and tooth angles                       | <p>3.1 Identify stages of tooth eruption and presence or absence of deciduous and permanent teeth</p> <p>3.2 Assess incisor shape and angles in relation to age, and identify variables that affect assessment</p> <p>3.3 Identify occlusal wear and shape of teeth relevant to equine life stage</p> <p>3.4 Estimate equine age based on presence or absence of deciduous and permanent teeth, wear patterns, tooth form and tooth angles</p> <p>3.5 Document tooth status and oral conditions using accepted industry notation methods</p> |
| 4. Evaluate the impact of dental and oral health on muscular structure, digestion and nutrient absorption | <p>4.1 Assess anatomical structure and function of head, and relationship between muscular structure and masticatory function</p> <p>4.2 Determine changes in head and oral cavity due to age, disease and injury</p> <p>4.3 Evaluate other factors affecting oral function and digestive processes</p> <p>4.4 Identify effects of poor oral health on equine physiology and nutrient absorption</p>                                                                                                                                         |
| 5. Identify and evaluate                                                                                  | 5.1 Identify normal and abnormal dental and oral conditions and                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |

| Elements                                                                       | Performance Criteria                                                                                                                                                             |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>                               | <i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>                                                                           |
| the impact of dental and oral conditions on equine health                      | possible causes of abnormalities<br>5.2 Evaluate potential health impacts of dental injuries, diseases and abnormalities                                                         |
| 6. Evaluate the impact of absent or inappropriate dental care on equine health | 6.1 Evaluate potential consequences of absence of dental care on health of equines<br>6.2 Identify indicators and consequences of inappropriate dental techniques and treatments |

## Foundation Skills

*This section describes those language, literacy, numeracy and employment skills that are essential for performance in this unit of competency but are not explicit in the performance criteria.*

| Skill   | Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|---------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Reading | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interpret information in equine dental records and charts and veterinary advice</li> <li>Analyse complex anatomical texts, diagrams and other resources from a variety of sources, and consolidate information</li> </ul> |
| Writing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Record equine dental information in English, using industry accepted nomenclature and coding systems in print-based or electronic formats</li> </ul>                                                                      |

## Unit Mapping Information

| Code and title current version                                                                   | Code and title previous version                       | Comments                                                                                                                                                                   | Equivalence status |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| ACMEQD501 Relate equine masticatory system to oral function, conditions and their health impacts | ACMEQD402 Determine equine oral functional efficiency | Redesigned unit merging content from two units<br><i>ACMEQD402 Determine equine oral functional efficiency, and</i><br><i>ACMEQD403 Identify potential impacts of oral</i> | Not equivalent     |

|                                                                                                  |                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
|                                                                                                  |                                                         | <i>conditions</i><br>Unit code changed to reflect work requirements                                                                                                                                                                         |                |
| ACMEQD501 Relate equine masticatory system to oral function, conditions and their health impacts | ACMEQD403 Identify potential impacts of oral conditions | Redesigned unit merging content from two units<br><i>ACMEQD402 Determine equine oral functional efficiency, and</i><br><i>ACMEQD403 Identify potential impacts of oral conditions</i><br><br>Unit code changed to reflect work requirements | Not equivalent |

## Links

Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: -  
<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=b75f4b23-54c9-4cc9-a5db-d3502d154103>