



**Australian Government**

**Assessment Requirements for  
ACMEQU422 Maintain and monitor horse  
health**

**Release: 1**

# Assessment Requirements for ACMEQU422 Maintain and monitor horse health

## Modification History

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

## Performance Evidence

An individual demonstrating competency must satisfy all of the elements and performance criteria in this unit.

There must be evidence that the individual has:

- implemented scheduled routine health care plans for at least three horses, including at least two horses at different life stages and/or gender
- maintained and monitored the health of at least one horse with an identified health issue, including:
  - assessed the health status and identified the health issue to be addressed
  - determined treatment option in consultation with a manager, veterinarian or other equine health practitioner
  - administered treatment/s as required and monitored horse progress
- communicated horse health care, emergency and infection control procedures to at least one team member
- maintained accurate records for:
  - routine health care plans for the three horses above
  - health issue and treatment specific to the individual horse above.

## Knowledge Evidence

An individual must be able to demonstrate the knowledge required to perform the tasks outlined in the elements and performance criteria of this unit. This includes knowledge of:

- basic structures and functions of horse physiological systems, including:
  - respiratory system
  - musculoskeletal system
  - digestive system
  - nervous system
  - reproductive system

- importance of temperature regulation in horse health
- basic indicators of normal and abnormal horse body system function
- indicators and behavioural signs of health conditions, including those requiring emergency or immediate attention
- features of routine health care and preventative treatment plans for horses, including:
  - dental programs
  - internal and external parasite control
  - vaccination
  - hoof maintenance
  - balanced diet
- indicators of potential health problems and deficient diet, including:
  - condition score
  - coat and skin condition
  - appetite loss or changes
  - general demeanour
- features of safe, secure housing for horse health, including isolation or quarantine arrangements where needed
- common horse health conditions, including:
  - lameness
  - colic
  - wounds
  - feet and hoof conditions
  - eye conditions
  - 'ill thrift' or failure to thrive
- main causes, consequences and relevant treatments or medications relating to common horse health conditions
- types of medications that are prohibited or contravene rules for horses used in competitive sports
- signs of infectious diseases, and procedures for managing, including requirements of notifiable diseases
- safe interactions with horses, including:
  - situational risk assessment and control
  - low stress handling and interaction techniques
  - safe restraining methods
  - use of personal protective equipment (PPE) relevant to activity
- workplace horse health record-keeping system and reporting procedure
- importance of hygiene and infection control procedures
- key requirements of relevant legislation and codes of practice, including:
  - biosecurity relating to notifiable disease, quarantine/isolation and transportation/movement of horses

- work, health and safety relating to interactions with horses and safe storage and disposal of medications, treatments, chemicals and cleaning agents
- animal welfare relating to the safe, humane and ethical care of horses.

## Assessment Conditions

Assessment of the skills in this unit of competency must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
  - an equine workplace or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
  - live horses as specified in the performance evidence, assessed as suitable for the experience and skill of the individual
  - health care products and equipment relevant to providing care and treatment for horses in assessment activity
  - gear for horses and PPE for handler appropriate for activity
  - record-keeping formats
- specifications:
  - workplace procedures, schedules and legislations for the tasks specified in the performance evidence
- relationships:
  - team member
  - access to veterinarian or equine health practitioner for instructions.

The *Companion Volume: User Guide: Safety in Equine Training* provides advice and sample templates to assist assessors with the risk assessments that should be undertaken to help ensure the safety of all involved in the assessment.

Assessors of this unit must satisfy the requirements for assessors in applicable vocational education and training legislation, frameworks and/or standards.

## Links

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