



Australian Government

ACMEQU509 Conduct assessment for equine massage therapy

Release: 1

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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 a horse or other equine prior to carrying out massage therapy.

The unit applies to individuals who perform equine massage therapy for clients and carers. They work autonomously, take responsibility for their own work, and apply technical massage 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.

Current state/territory veterinary practice legislation and restricted acts of veterinary science limit the activities that may be carried out by non-registered veterinarians. Requirements vary between jurisdictions. All activities should be carried out within the constraints of the current, relevant legislation.

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Unit Sector

Equine (EQU)

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>
1. Determine client requirements	1.1 Clarify client requirements and expectations related to horse massage therapy

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<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	<p>1.2 Provide clear information about scope and limits of services to be provided, and obtain client consent to proceed with assessment</p> <p>1.3 Gather information and prepare an accurate record of horse health and performance issues</p> <p>1.4 Recognise needs beyond scope of own practice and make referrals to veterinarian or other equine health care practitioners as required</p>
2. Conduct assessment of horse condition	<p>2.1 Assess and control risks associated with interacting with horses in close proximity</p> <p>2.2 Prepare safe and controlled area for conducting horse examination</p> <p>2.3 Approach and interact with horse using safe, low stress handling techniques, and secure as required</p> <p>2.4 Carry out an initial visual assessment of horse conformation and movement</p> <p>2.5 Conduct physical examination of horse, using palpation techniques appropriate for body area, to identify areas of compromise, changes to texture, tension and tenderness</p> <p>2.6 Work within equine safe zone and position own body and hands to detect potential horse movement or reactions during examination</p> <p>2.7 Monitor horse reaction to physical examination to ensure safety and humane treatment of horse</p>
3. Determine massage therapy requirements	<p>3.1 Explain outcomes of examination and potential therapy options with owner or carer</p> <p>3.2 Refer owner to registered veterinarian or other equine health care practitioner for conditions outside scope of practice</p> <p>3.3 Assess horse suitability for massage therapy and plan short-term and longer-term goals as required</p> <p>3.4 Confirm service to be carried out and details of arrangements and estimate costs</p> <p>3.5 Confirm owner or carer consent for therapy, or document information for referral, if required</p> <p>3.6 Complete horse and client records according to workplace practice</p>

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
Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Complete workplace documentation using print-based or digital formats and veterinary terminology suitable for conveying comprehensive information to others
Oral communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Explain information using appropriate tone and pace suitable for audience to ensure comprehensionUse listening and questioning to elicit and clarify information and confirm understanding
Numeracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Use mathematical concepts to calculate or estimate time and cost

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMEQU509 Conduct assessment for equine massage therapy	Not applicable	The unit has been created to address a skill or task required by industry that is not covered by an existing unit	Newly created

Links

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