



Australian Government

Assessment Requirements for ACMVET415 Provide intensive foal care and nursing

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 2.0.

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 provided intensive foal care and nursing in a neonatal intensive care unit (NICU), for a minimum of two foals, including:

- implemented biosecurity and infection controls for the management of ill and infected foals, with consideration of zoonotic and exotic disease possibilities
- measured parameters of health in foals
- administered enteral and parenteral nutrition to impaired foals
- provided respiratory support and performed emergency ventilation to impaired foals
- documented and maintained foal identification, history, observation, medication and treatment records
- identified and assembled 'crash kit' items on at least one occasion
- followed aseptic procedures
- admitted and discharged a patient from NICU
- cared for a mare in NICU
- demonstrated simulated foal resuscitation techniques.

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:

- normal health parameters for foals
- handling techniques for compromised newborn foals
- nutritional requirements and options for compromised newborn foals
- principles and practices of infection control and biosecurity risks related to nursing newborn foals
- principles and practices of routine care and nursing techniques for compromised newborn foals, including:

- performing specialised nursing techniques as required
- safely assisting foals to stand and support
- rotating foal position regularly between left to right sternal recumbency
- close monitoring of all vital signs and body functions, including pressure points (bed sores)
- use of monitoring equipment, including:
 - blood pressure (BP) monitor
 - glucometer
 - lactate monitor
 - refractometer
 - BRIX sugar refractometer (degrees Brix [symbol °Bx])
 - electrocardiogram (ECG) machine
 - pulse oximeter
 - ISTAT or IDEXX machines (haematology analysers)
- principles of animal welfare
- legislation, regulations and codes of practice, including WHS, animal welfare and ethics, veterinary practices and waste disposal related to compromised newborn foals
- function and use of equipment, including:
 - monitoring foal health status and vital signs
 - respiratory support
 - crash kits
 - intravenous catheters
 - infusion pumps
 - milking mares
- items that may be encountered in a crash kit and how they are used, including:
 - oxygen tank, regulator and flow meter
 - oxygen tubing
 - endotracheal tubes
 - self-inflating bag-valve resuscitator
 - syringes and needles
 - fluid-giving sets
 - catheter placement kit
 - fluid pump
 - pharmaceuticals as specified by hospital policy and procedures and/or veterinary directions
 - a chart with a list of all drugs and their doses
- purpose and use of medications and treatments used in intensive foal care
- workplace hygiene standards and biosecurity, including: disinfectants, cleaning agents and techniques, cleaning and appropriate disinfection or sterilisation of equipment, materials and personal protective equipment related to intensive foal care.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - in the workplace or an environment that accurately reflects an NICU
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - foal patients and nursing mares
 - equipment and resources typically available in an NICU
- specifications:
 - access to organisational policies and procedures, current legislation, regulations and relevant codes of practice
 - workplace procedures for caring and nursing foals in NICU
- relationships (internal and/or external):
 - interactions with a registered veterinarian or minimum of Certificate IV qualified veterinary nurse.

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

Training and assessment strategies must show evidence of the use of guidance provided in the *Companion Volume: User Guide: Safety in Equine Training*.

Links

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