



Australian Government

**Assessment Requirements for ACMATE504
Administer anaesthesia and perform
surgery on animals for scientific purposes**

Release: 2

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 2	This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 3.0.
Release 1	This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 1.0.

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:

- administered anaesthesia and performed basic surgery for scientific purposes on animals on at least two occasions according to all organisational policies and procedures.

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 animal anatomy and physiology, including:
 - terminology and nomenclature related to the species being examined, anaesthetic processes, equipment and materials
 - anatomical structures, tissues and organs relevant to basic surgical procedures and the induction and monitoring of animals under anaesthetic
 - physiological features of animals related to the application of anaesthesia and related medications and the response to surgical procedures
- location and features of anatomical and physiological structures, including:
 - integument and facial structures
 - musculoskeletal structures
 - digestive system structures and organs
 - reproductive system, organs and structures
- principles and practices for administering anaesthesia:

- basic types of anaesthetic and analgesic agents and drugs, and effects on animal physiology, including side effects and complications
- techniques for administering anaesthetic agents, including intramuscular (IM), subcutaneous (SC), intravenous (IV), mask and intubation
- methods and equipment used to monitor animals during anaesthesia and surgical procedures
- procedures for managing an anaesthetic overdose
- terminology used to describe anaesthetic processes, equipment, materials and physiological responses
- safe animal handling techniques, including approved handling methods during the administration of substances and surgical procedures
- surgical procedures and techniques used in animal technology facilities, including:
 - aseptic techniques
 - biosecurity issues for animals and humans
- characteristics of healthy, sick or distressed animals, including indicators of normal and undesirable responses to anaesthetic and related medications
- communication procedures and systems, and technology relevant to the organisation and the individual's work responsibilities
- information that should be documented regarding the administration of anaesthetic and related substances and application of surgical procedures
- methods used to measure, interpret and record objective measures of animal health
- types of information to be reported and recorded in relation to anaesthesia and surgical procedures
- key features of the Australian Code for the Care and Use of Animals for Scientific Purposes
- workplace procedures and key requirements of relevant state or territory legislation and regulations relating to administering anaesthesia and performing surgery, including:
 - the practice of veterinary science
 - health and safety
 - waste disposal
 - animal welfare and research
 - the use of therapeutic and controlled substances
- workplace hygiene standards, including commonly used disinfectants and cleaning agents, techniques, equipment and materials.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - a workplace, or a simulated environment that accurately reflects performance in a real workplace setting
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - animals for administering anaesthesia and performing surgery on

- equipment and resources used when administering anaesthesia and performing surgery, including personal protective equipment
- specifications:
 - organisational policies and procedures, legislation, regulations, standards and codes of practice relevant to work undertaken in animal research and technology.

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>