



Australian Government

ACMATE509 Perform caesarean procedures on mice or rats

Release: 1

ACMATE509 Perform caesarean procedures on mice or rats

Modification History

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

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to perform caesareans on mice or rats and manage pups.

The unit applies to individuals who work as animal technicians in research and teaching facilities where research animals are bred for scientific purposes.

All work practices must be undertaken in accordance with legislative requirements, the current Australian Code for the Care and Use of Animals for Scientific Purposes (the Code), the organisation's standard operating procedures, and protocols, policies and procedures approved by the organisation's Animal Ethics Committee (AEC). Users are advised to check legislative requirements for their jurisdiction.

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Unit Sector

Animal Technology (ATE)

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. Prepare for procedures and maintain documentation	1.1 Comply with organisation protocols, policies and procedures according to the Australian Code and relevant legislative requirements, including health and safety 1.2 Identify regulatory and project documentation requirements 1.3 Verify project reproductive and breeding program objectives 1.4 Revise, review, maintain and update records according to

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	organisation policies and procedures
2. Perform caesarean procedures	2.1 Justify need for caesarean section and confirm AEC approval 2.2 Prepare equipment, including personal protective equipment and medications, according to organisational procedures 2.3 Humanely kill female by cervical dislocation, or sedate and euthanase 2.4 Conduct caesarean procedure 2.5 Collect, identify, check and monitor pups 2.6 Dispose of carcass according to legislative requirements
3. Foster pups onto clean mother	3.1 Verify clean or dirty status of the mother, and separate handling and treatment areas of each group according to biosecurity requirements 3.2 Select and prepare foster mother prior to caesarean surgery of birth mother 3.3 Select and prepare area for fostering to ensure minimal stress to foster mother and pups 3.4 Allocate pups to foster mother, and monitor bonding

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
Numeracy	Keep accurate records of animal birth weight and other measurements
Get the work done	Make decisions and solve problems as they arise during caesarean procedures

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMATE509 Perform caesarean procedures on mice or rats	ACMATE507 Manage the parturition of transgenic mice or rats	Title of unit changed to reflect intent of unit Unit code updated Minor changes to performance criteria for clarity Element 2 on natural births removed	Equivalent unit

Links

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

Assessment Requirements for ACMATE509 Perform caesarean procedures on mice or rats

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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:

- planned and carried out caesarean procedures on at least two full-term pregnant mice or rats.

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:

- principles and practices of caesarean procedures on mice and rats, including:
 - methods used to perform caesareans
 - mouse and rat breeding procedures and their species-specific requirements
 - anatomical and physiological terminology and glossary of terms
 - anatomical structures and physiological features of mice and rats related to the reproductive system
 - reproductive cycles
 - techniques used to start the breathing process in pups
 - techniques used to foster pups onto foster mothers
- biosecurity requirements for clean and dirty status handling and treatment areas
- key requirements of relevant, current codes, including the Australian Code for the Care and Use of Animals for Scientific Purposes
- animal welfare and ethics, including the 3Rs (replacement, reduction, refinement) and 5 Domains
- relevant state or territory legislation and regulations relating to performing caesareans
- relevant organisational policies and safe work procedures.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - an animal research or production facility, or an environment that reflects work conditions that has a scientific establishment licence and access to an approved Animal Ethics Committee.

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

Links

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