



Australian Government

Assessment Requirements for ACMATE510 Review and monitor research proposals for an Animal Ethics Committee

Release: 1

Assessment Requirements for ACMATE510 Review and monitor research proposals for an Animal Ethics Committee

Modification History

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

Performance Evidence

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

There must be evidence that the individual has:

- reviewed, assessed and monitored two animal research proposals, including one high impact project proposal
- contributed written and/or verbal feedback on ethics and animal welfare for each animal research proposal reviewed.

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:

- role, structure and membership of the organisation's Animal Ethics Committee (AEC)
- AEC operating procedures, including:
 - process for submitting, providing feedback and approving research proposals
 - grievance procedures
- ethical considerations in animal research proposals, including:
 - application of the 3Rs (replacement, reduction and refinement)
 - harm-benefit analysis of adverse effects to animals against potential benefits of research project
 - monitoring animal welfare
- factors to consider in animal research proposals, including:
 - purpose of research – scientific or educational aims
 - role of statistical components in research proposals, including to support research justification
 - extent of wastage and potential for animal suffering
 - potential for animal pain or distress and the proposed anaesthetic/analgesic regimen

- animal husbandry holding and experimental space requirements for the intended purpose, considering species-specific needs
- methods of animal handling, restraint and transport
- humane endpoints and approved methods of euthanasia or humane killing
- special health, safety or biosecurity risks, including mental health and physical risks
- resources/infrastructure necessary to support the proposed work
- experience and technical expertise of the scientific and technical staff involved
- training requirements for staff
- duration of project and monitoring, review and renewal mechanisms
- protocols, legal and ethical considerations in documenting observations, measurements, treatments and decisions relating to animal research
- site visits or inspections of animal holding and experimental space relevant to research, including temperature, alarms, humidity, physical space, separation of species/procedures
- working knowledge of current regulations and codes governing animal research for scientific purposes, including:
 - National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) guidelines
 - Australian Code for the Care and Use of Animals for Scientific Purposes (or its successor)
 - relevant state or territory legislation and regulations
- organisation and AEC reporting procedures
- potential areas of improvement in ethical animal research, including:
 - animal welfare, care and husbandry
 - environmental enrichment
 - health and safety
 - hygiene/cleanliness
 - procedural efficiencies.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - skills must be demonstrated in a workplace setting or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - research proposals
 - organisation's AEC guidelines or procedures
 - Australian Code for the Care and Use of Animals for Scientific Purposes.

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>