



Australian Government

ACMEQD405 Perform routine dental correction and oral care using manual instruments

Release: 1

ACMEQD405 Perform routine dental correction and oral care using manual instruments

Modification History

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

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to perform routine dental correction and oral care using manual instruments.

The unit applies to individuals, working as equine dental service providers, who use practical skills and knowledge to perform routine dental corrections and oral care across a range of equine industry sectors.

Legislative and regulatory requirements, including work health and safety and animal welfare, apply to the scope of work of equine dental service providers, and vary according to state/territory jurisdictions. Users must check with the relevant regulatory authority before delivery.

NOTE: The terms ‘occupational health and safety’ (OHS) and ‘work health and safety’ (WHS) generally have the same meaning in the workplace. In jurisdictions where the national model WHS legislation has not been implemented, RTOs must contextualise the unit of competency by referring to current OHS legislative requirements.

Pre-requisite Unit

Prerequisite units of competency for this unit are:

- ACMEQU202 Handle horses safely

Note the following chain of prerequisites that also apply to this unit.

Unit of competency	Prerequisite requirement
ACMEQU202 Handle horses safely	ACMEQU205 Apply knowledge of horse behaviour

Unit Sector

Equine Dentistry (EQD)

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. Identify and appraise manual instruments used in equine dentistry	1.1 Assess materials used in manual dental instruments to determine appropriateness for intended use and for cleaning and disinfection 1.2 Assess speculum types and demonstrate fitting techniques according to work health and safety (WHS) standards and animal welfare considerations 1.3 Review manual files (floats) and file (float) blade types and demonstrate techniques for use according to WHS standards and animal welfare considerations 1.4 Examine other dental equipment and demonstrate techniques for use according to WHS standards and animal welfare considerations
2. Prepare for use of manual instruments	2.1 Assess potential risks and safety considerations for equines and handlers in performing an oral inspection and apply safety protocols and risk controls 2.2 Refer to a treatment plan and oral mouth inspection reports before commencing dental treatment 2.3 Implement appropriate infection control procedures 2.4 Select appropriate manual instruments for the nominated task 2.5 Position or restrain the equine using safe handling techniques and instruct the carer on their role in controlling the equine
3. Prepare for routine dental correction in line with the treatment plan	3.1 Fit speculum in line with industry standards giving due consideration to equine response and relevant anatomy 3.2 Remove impacted feed and flush oral cavity with water to conduct visual and manual examination using appropriate focal light source and dental mirrors 3.3 Identify any digitally loose retained deciduous teeth (caps) 3.4 Assess condition and cause/s of pathology and arrange for treatment according to the constraints of qualified equine dental provider professional scope and related workplace protocols 3.5 Provide advice and options for treatment or arrange for a referral to a registered veterinarian

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
4. Perform routine dental correction according to treatment plan	4.1 Assess the impact of sharp buccal and lingual points on soft tissues on both the upper and lower molar arcades 4.2 File teeth (float) with extreme caution to optimise health, mastication and comfort of horse or other equine ensuring that the removal of dentine is not excessive and the pulp chamber is not approached or damaged 4.3 Assess procedure for removal of digitally loose retained teeth and treat 4.4 Remove supragingival calculus (tartar) from teeth as necessary 4.5 Clean and modify canine teeth according to professional workplace practice 4.6 Refer treatments outside of qualified equine dental provider professional scope to a registered veterinarian
5. Install or restore bit seat for ridden or driven horses or other equines and address canine teeth	5.1 Address the presence or absence of first premolar (Wolf) teeth prior to installing bit seats and refer to a registered veterinarian if extraction is required 5.2 Identify features of the required 'bit seat' according to the treatment plan and purpose or use of the equine 5.3 Create appropriate bit seats on the second premolars on both the upper and lower arcades giving due consideration to tooth structure and maintaining optimal occlusion in relation to mastication and avoidance of the pulp canals 5.4 Rinse the oral cavity in line with workplace practice
6. Provide post-dental treatment care	6.1 Inspect the oral cavity and teeth for evidence of injury caused during dental treatment and, if present, evaluate treatment options including the need to consult or refer to a veterinarian 6.2 Evaluate dental treatment to confirm comfort and evaluate oral functionality status 6.3 Clean and disinfect work area, instruments and other equipment according to infection control standard precautions 6.4 Check instruments and equipment for wear and/or damage and implement workplace maintenance or repair procedures 6.5 Update records including dental charts and photographs, according to workplace requirements 6.6 Inform the owner or carer about the scope of the treatment

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	provided and provide advice about post-treatment care, the need for follow-up treatment, or referral to a registered veterinarian or other appropriate service provider.

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
Reading	Interpret and consolidate key information in industry recognised charts, and oral inspection reports and records for individual horses or other equines
Writing	Enter data and observations into record keeping systems accurately using industry terminology and dental encoded systems
Numeracy	Calculate and record routine measures relating to carrying out equine dental corrections and oral care
Oral communication	Provide clear explanations and respond to queries using terminology and concepts appropriate for the audience
Navigate the world of work	- Take responsibility for following work health and safety, safe handling practices, animal welfare and biosecurity requirements, in own role and work area - Know own obligations and limits of professional and personal scope or ethical responsibility
Interact with others	Follow accepted industry professional practices and protocols for working collaboratively with and reporting to registered veterinarians
Get the work done	- Assemble resources and plan and prioritise daily tasks to achieve outcomes relating to equine dental corrections and oral care - Make decisions about routine and non-routine dental corrections, taking responsibility for judgements made and recommended follow up or referral action

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMEQD405 Perform routine dental correction and oral care using manual instruments	ACMEQD405A Perform routine dental correction and oral care using manual instruments	Updated to meet Standards for Training Packages. Prerequisite added. Work placement requirement included.	No 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 ACMEQD405 Perform routine dental correction and oral care using manual instruments

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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 performed routine dental correction and oral care using manual instruments on at least six different horses or other equines, including:

- preparing for treatment including assessing equine temperament and behaviour
- advising owner to organise sedation if required, strictly according to relevant State and Territory legislation, regulations and industry standards
- instructing the carer on their role and safety procedures in handling the horse or other equine during treatment
- conduct a professional and thorough visual and manual examination of the head and oral cavity of each equine to formulate an assessment and treatment plan
- using appropriate techniques with manual instruments restore dental and oral structures to an acceptable condition, considering functionality and comfort according to the treatment plan and oral inspection report for each equine
- complying with all safety, animal welfare and infection control and hygiene protocols and monitoring for update alerts
- explaining procedures and post-treatment management to owner or carer and others
- updating dental and other relevant records for each equine
- performing the activities outlined in the performance criteria of this unit during, and contributing to, an overall period of at least 120 hours of work supervised by supervised by an equine dental service provider who is a dental association member and/or a qualified equine dental service provider and/or is currently commercially active in providing equine dental services.

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 for performing routine dental correction and oral care using manual instruments

- anatomy and physiology of the equine head and oral structures including features and functions of the equine mouth and its structures including normal and abnormal functions
- appropriate industry and state/territory equine dental codes of conduct and standards of practice
- appropriate terminology used to describe dental conditions, treatment and oral features
- charting systems used to record equine dental information
- clinical signs and effects of the categories of sedative drugs used with equines
- contagious and zoonotic disease signs and symptoms, prophylaxis and biosecurity protocols
- features of normal or correctly formed, healthy and well-maintained equine dental and oral structures
- features of manual instruments used in equine dental care related to purpose, operation, quality, longevity and cost
- equine ailments and injuries that may impact on dental health
- equine behaviour and other signs that may indicate dental or oral problems
- indicators of equine distress, pain, illness, and pathology
- adherence to instrument manufacturer instructions and maintenance specifications
- usefulness life span, maintenance of and indicators of wear or redundancy of manual equine dental instruments
- normal and abnormal features of equine dental and oral structures including physiology and effect of diet
- parameters of treatment which may require referral to a registered veterinarian or other appropriate service provider, including:
 - advanced or staged corrective treatment
 - retained deciduous caps with periodontal attachments
 - permanent cheek teeth that are mobile indicating significant pathology
 - tooth fragments for extraction or further investigation
 - teeth extractions
 - periodontal disease
 - endodontic disease
 - other investigative procedures and/or health problems
- potential consequences of unskilled or inappropriate dental techniques and treatments:
 - damage to or severing of nerves or blood vessels, such as palatine artery, including epistaxis
 - lacerated oral tissues, fracture of teeth or of the bones of the skull
 - pulpitis or pulp necrosis (tooth death) due to pulp exposure, or near exposure, or thermal or mechanical damage
 - absence of referral when appropriate
- principles and regulations concerning animal welfare
- post-dental treatment monitoring, management and care
- protocols, legal and ethical considerations in consulting with registered veterinarians and other relevant persons

- appropriate industry and state or territory legislation covering equine dental codes of conduct and standards of practice
- relevant state or territory legislation covering the supply, possession and use of restricted and controlled substances
- standard precautions for the care and treatment of all animals, regardless of their perceived or confirmed infectious status for animal care
- techniques and use of manual instruments used to provide equine dental care
- techniques used to:
 - restrain equines safely for dental treatment
 - fit speculum
 - remove impacted feed, rinse mouth with water
 - examine the oral cavity both visually and digitally in order to make a proper assessment
 - file (float) teeth with manual instruments within professionally accepted parameters
 - install bit comfort areas
 - remove supra-gingival calculus (tartar)
 - remove impacted feed
 - remove retained but digitally loose deciduous teeth (caps)
- relevant legislation, regulations and codes of practice for veterinary practices and restricted dental practices
- key requirements of work health and safety regulations and guidelines relating to:
 - risk assessment and control
 - safe handling techniques for catching, handling, controlling and restraining equines
 - safe work practices
 - storage of chemicals and medicines
 - personal protective equipment
- key requirements of biosecurity standards, relevant to:
 - hygiene standards - cleaning, disinfection or sterilisation of equipment and materials
 - provision, use and wearing of personal protective equipment for operator and assistants
 - safe waste management and disposal
 - equine diseases, notifiable diseases and quarantine procedures
- key requirements of animal welfare standards, policies and procedures relevant to the safe, humane and ethical care of horses or other equines.
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Assessment Conditions

Assessment of this unit must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - a workplace or an environment that accurately reflects performance in a real workplace setting

- resources, equipment and materials:
 - various live horses or other equines with a range of dental correction and oral care needs assessed as suitable for the skill level of the candidate
 - appropriate tack, materials and equipment for carrying out an oral inspection
 - personal protective equipment correctly fitted and applicable for tasks for candidate
- relationships:
 - interactions with owners or carers of horses or other equines
 - interactions with registered veterinarians.

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

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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<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=b75f4b23-54c9-4cc9-a5db-d3502d154103>