



Australian Government

**Assessment Requirements for
ACMEQD501 Relate equine masticatory
system to oral function, conditions and their
health impacts**

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 5.0.

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 examined oral condition of at least twelve equines, including:

- at least two equines in each of the following life stages:
 - young (less than 6 years)
 - mature
 - senior/aged
- at least two equines on each of the following diets:
 - pasture/paddock
 - stable feed
 - high performance feed.

For each twelve equine oral examinations, the individual must have carried out the following:

- located and described oral cavity features by name, location and function
- identified lateral excursion, rostro-caudal movement and occlusal functionality
- estimated equine age based on tooth eruption, development, wear, shape and incisor angulation
- assessed basic general health and health of teeth and dental structures for each equine
- identified evidence of pathology, health issues and appropriate or inappropriate dental care for each equine
- completed accurate dental charts for each equine examined
- used appropriate dental codes, language and terminology to document functionality of the masticatory system and all observations.

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:

- functionality of the equine masticatory system
- structures and features of the anatomically correct and healthy equine head and dentition, and well-maintained oral cavity, including:
 - bone structures of the head
 - soft tissues, including lips, tongue, gums and cheeks
 - hard palate and palatine artery
 - periodontal and related structures
 - equine teeth
 - innervation and blood supply to various structures of the head
- key functions of oral structures, including:
 - those used for prehension, mastication, swallowing, digestion
 - normal and abnormal functions, including physiology and effect of diet
- equine tooth types, including:
 - incisors
 - canines
 - cheek teeth – premolars (including wolf teeth) and molars
 - supernumerary teeth
- stages of tooth development, including:
 - bud stage, cap stage, bell stage
 - embryonic sac
 - deciduous, permanent
 - mineralisation, attrition and ageing
- nomenclature and classification of equine tooth types, including:
 - Triadan numbering system
 - anatomical nomenclature of teeth
 - deciduous and permanent teeth, and timing and stage of eruption
- structures of equine teeth and associated structures, including:
 - apical foramen
 - alveolus (socket)
 - periodontal ligament
 - Sharpey's fibres
 - cementum, dentine and enamel
 - root, reserve crown and clinical crown, infundibulum
 - pulp canals (or chamber) nerves, vessels and associated structures
- stages of development and eruption of teeth, including:
 - bud, cap, bell and mineralisation stages

- deciduous and permanent tooth eruption
- structure of enamel, cementum and dentine
- attrition/wear of the different dental structures
- abnormalities of development and eruption, including:
 - absence of teeth (oligodontia)
 - supernumerary teeth
 - developmental defects of the teeth
 - dentigerous cysts
 - impaction (failure of tooth to erupt normally)
 - lack of wear
 - parrot mouth, overbite, overjet (mandibular brachygnathism/maxillary prognathia)
 - sow mouth, monkey mouth (maxillary brachygnathism/mandibular prognathia)
 - wry mouth (campylorrhinus lateralis)
- stages of equine dental eruption and age indicators, including:
 - presence or absence of deciduous teeth, permanent teeth and infundibulae
 - observation of teeth in wear
- masticatory processes, including:
 - biomechanics of masticatory system
 - feed manipulation and formation of food bolus and transit through oral cavity
 - masticatory muscles, the tongue and salivary glands
 - palate rugae
 - teeth and their normal occlusal angles and surface ridges
- process of prehension, mastication and role of normal oral function, including physiology and effect of diet
- nutritional requirements and digestive processes of equines
- potential consequences of the absence of dental care on equine health, including:
 - untreated pathology, including malocclusions, periodontal disease, developmental defects, fractures, decay
 - inability or reluctance to prehend or to masticate effectively
 - poor acceptance of a bit, bridle or head collar or other behavioural problems related to dental issues
 - gastrointestinal tract impaction and/or colic
- potential outcomes of inappropriate dental techniques and treatments, including:
 - damage to or severing of nerves or blood vessels, such as palatine artery, including haemorrhage
 - lacerated oral tissues, fracture of teeth or of the bones of the maxilla and mandible
 - pulpitis or pulp necrosis (tooth death) due to pulp exposure, or near exposure, or thermal or mechanical damage
 - compromised integrity and functional anatomy of the teeth
 - need to refer to a colleague, including veterinarians, when appropriate
- safe work practices, including safe horse handling techniques

- key requirements of hygiene and biosecurity procedures, relevant to:
 - personal hygiene and personal protective equipment (PPE)
 - cleaning, disinfection or sterilisation of equipment and materials
 - safe biological and general waste disposal
 - equine infectious disease, notifiable diseases and quarantine procedures.

Assessment Conditions

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

- physical conditions:
 - an equine workplace or a simulated environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - various live equines of different ages on different diets, assessed for suitability for skill level being assessed and safety of handler and equine
 - PPE correctly fitted for the individual
 - appropriate gear and restraints for live equine examination, as required.

Two Companion Volumes are available:

- *Companion Volume: User Guide: Equine Allied Health* provides delivery and assessment information tailored for equine dental technicians, and detailed guidelines relating to anatomical requirements and industry expectations
- *Companion Volume: User Guide: Safety in Equine Training* provides advice and sample templates to assist assessors with the risk assessments that should be undertaken to help ensure the safety of all involved in the assessment.

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>