



Australian Government

ACMEQU216 Check and treat horses

Release: 1

ACMEQU216 Check and treat horses

Modification History

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

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to carry out routine checks on horses, provide treatments under direction, and assist others to provide medical treatment when required.

This unit applies to workers in industries involving horses, and who undertake routine horse care tasks under supervision.

Commonwealth and state/territory health and safety and animal welfare legislation, regulations and codes of practice relevant to interacting with horses apply to workers in this industry. Requirements vary between industry sectors and jurisdictions.

No licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.

Pre-requisite Unit

ACMEQU212 Handle horses safely

Unit Sector

Equine (EQU)

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. Carry out routine horse checks	1.1 Confirm horse identification and supervisor instructions for horse health activities 1.2 Identify hazards, assess risks and control and/or report risks prior to commencing tasks 1.3 Select and fit personal protective equipment (PPE) required for the

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	task 1.4 Identify signs of good health and condition in horses 1.5 Check horse for signs of lameness, soreness, heat or swelling in legs, cuts and other signs of injury, illness and distress 1.6 Clean and examine hooves and note signs of hoof general condition, damage or injury 1.7 Check shoes, if fitted to horse, for wear and damage and report missing or loose shoes 1.8 Report signs of horse health, illness or injury to supervisor according to workplace procedures
2. Carry out horse treatments	2.1 Confirm horse identification and treatment requirements with supervisor 2.2 Identify hazards, assess risks and control and/or report risks prior to commencing tasks 2.3 Select and fit PPE required for the task 2.4 Select, check and apply appropriate restraints to secure horse in preparation for treatment 2.5 Provide routine medications and treatments using safe and low stress techniques, and record according to workplace requirements 2.6 Assist others as directed to treat horses 2.7 Store or dispose of medications and treatments according to workplace health, safety and biosecurity requirements

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 key information in horse treatment product labels
Writing	Record data and information about checking and treating horses accurately

Skill	Description
Numeracy	Estimate and calculate quantity, weight, temperature, volume and ratio
Oral communication	Use active listening and questioning techniques to clarify and confirm supervisor instructions

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMEQU216 Check and treat horses	ACMEQU203 Provide basic care of horses	Redesigned unit that includes content from <i>ACMHBR201 Check and treat horses</i> , and <i>ACMEQU203 Provide basic care of horses</i>	Not equivalent
ACMEQU216 Check and treat horses	ACMHBR201 Check and treat horses	Redesigned unit that includes content from <i>ACMHBR201 Check and treat horses</i> , and <i>ACMEQU203 Provide basic care of horses</i> Prerequisite requirements changed Major changes to all sections of the unit	Not equivalent

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 ACMEQU216 Check and treat horses

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 checked and treated at least two suitably educated, calm, consistent and obedient horses. Each horse must be checked on three separate occasions. For each horse, the individual must have:

- identified at least three different hazards, and assessed and controlled and/or reported associated risks
- selected, checked and correctly fitted appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)
- demonstrated safe and low stress horse handling techniques
- checked horse vital signs, including temperature, respiratory rate, capillary refill, hydration status and heart rate
- checked horse for signs of discharge, including nasal, eye and genitalia
- monitored and reported basic horse health and identified signs of:
 - ill health, injury or lameness
 - abnormal or depressed appetite
 - non-routine behaviour
- cleaned, checked and applied a hoof dressing
- checked for loose or damaged shoes if shoes are fitted to horse.

In addition to the above, the individual must have treated two horses as directed, including:

- administered topical and oral medications
- bandaged a minor cut
- bandaged a minor injury or applied a poultice to a limb
- assisted as directed with the provision of first aid and/or other treatments, including:
 - demonstrated safe handling and positioning of self to reduce risks to self and others
 - restrained horse by use of head collar and lead, holding a leg up, positioning of horse and/or twitch (skin or nose)
- safely disposed of materials used for treatments according to workplace health, safety and biosecurity requirements

- documented at least two different treatments provided to horses according to workplace requirements.

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:

- animal welfare requirements, including ethical and humane treatment
- industry terminology for points of horses
- horse vital sign checks, including temperature, respiratory rate, capillary refill, hydration status and heart rate
- signs of good health
- signs of common horse illness and injuries, including:
 - lameness or soreness
 - hoof cracks and hoof capsule damage
 - heat or swelling in legs
 - distress in horses
 - elevated body temperature
- techniques for detecting signs of good health, illness or injury
- low stress and safe techniques for handling, leading and restraining injured and ill horses
- safe and low stress horse handling techniques and zones when treating horses
- routine horse health checks
- first aid for minor injuries in horses
- workplace reporting processes related to horse health
- tools and equipment used when treating common horse injuries and diseases, including personal protective equipment (PPE)
- features, purpose, effects, reactions and animal welfare considerations of common horse restraints used when treating horses, including:
 - holding a leg up
 - nose twitch and skin twitch
 - crush
 - bits and bridles
 - chemical restraints
- record-keeping systems
- hazard identification, risk assessment and controls to minimise risks when checking and treating horses
- responsibility for reporting and controlling health and safety risks for own job role
- key features of biosecurity and infection control when checking and treating horses.

Assessment Conditions

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

- physical conditions:
 - an equine workplace or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - live horses specified in the performance evidence, assessed as suitable for the assessment of this unit and the individual being assessed
 - tools, equipment and medications required to perform the tasks specified in the performance evidence, including PPE
 - appropriate gear for horses and tasks specified in the performance evidence
 - workplace recording and reporting formats
- specifications:
 - workplace procedures and instruction for checking and treating horses specified in the performance evidence
- relationships:
 - supervisor.

The *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>