



Australian Government

Assessment Requirements for ACMEQU305 Implement a horse health program

Release: 1

Assessment Requirements for ACMEQU305 Implement a horse health program

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 implemented a horse health program, including vaccination, parasite control, hoof care, dental check, and illness or injury treatment, across at least three compliant and manageable horses. All health care contact and activities with horses must be carried out using safe and low stress horse handling practices. For each horse, the individual must have:

- conducted a pre-activity hazard identification, and assessed and controlled risks
- selected, checked and correctly fitted appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)
- applied personal hygiene, biosecurity and infection control practices
- identified restraint method appropriate for horse health treatment
- selected, fitted and applied suitable horse gear to restrain horses during treatments
- checked horse vital signs, including temperature, respiratory rate, capillary refill, hydration status and heart rate
- recognised normal physical and behavioural signs in horses:
 - temperature, pulse and respiration
 - condition score
 - lameness
- accurately updated workplace horse health records.

In addition to the above, the individual must have, for at least one horse:

- safely and effectively applied a restraint to horse
- checked for signs of internal and external parasites
- administered oral drench using appropriate equipment and technique
- used appropriate technique and location to administer an injection according to veterinary instructions (NOTE: This may be performed on a horse replica)
- applied prescribed oral and topical treatments

- externally checked horse teeth and reported health status
- applied treatment bandages to the leg, fetlock and hoof
- checked for common illnesses, injuries and communicable diseases.

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:

- industry terminology for points of horses and basic horse anatomy and physiology
- horse vital sign checks, including temperature, respiratory rate, capillary refill, hydration status and heart rate
- workplace requirements for controlling common horse medications and vaccinations, including:
 - identification, traceability and record-keeping
 - transport, storage and disposal of medicines and vaccines
 - application procedures and practices
- identification of prohibited substances in medications that may affect participation in competitions or breeding
- effects of medications on horses, including:
 - antibiotic resistance
 - contraindications
 - different classes of horse, including stallions and pregnant mares
- features, purpose, effects, reactions and animal welfare considerations of common horse restraints used for when checking and treating horses
- general vaccination requirements for horses, and individual requirements based on exposures
- horse injections, including locations on horses, subcutaneous, in muscle mass and intravenous
- state/territory restrictions on the administration of intravenous injections to horses by a proper responsible agent
- common horse parasites, including:
 - detection, including faecal sampling
 - options for prevention
 - symptoms and life cycles of parasites
 - resistance to treatments
- safe and low stress horse handling and medical treatment practices
- normal dentition and patterns of eruption
- dental disease, mouth conformation and abnormalities
- hoof structure and function
- considerations for routine hoof care checks and treatment, including:
 - seasonal or environmental factors
 - horse workload

- typical gait abnormalities
- indicators of horse lameness
- horse shoes, fit and common problems
- identification and use of basic farriery equipment
- application techniques for medical bandages
- causes, signs and treatment of common horse illnesses, injuries and communicable diseases
- key features of horse quarantine requirements and biosecurity procedures for infection control
- contents and use of items in horse first aid kit
- zoonoses transferred by horses to humans, including Hendra, ringworm and leptospirosis
- when owner or management consent is required prior to treating horses, including consideration of treatment cost, insurance cover and animal welfare
- workplace procedures for recording, storing and reporting information.

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
 - administration of injection as specified in the performance evidence may be carried out on a live horse or simulated with a horse replica
 - medications, gear, products, tools and equipment, including PPE required for the tasks specified in the performance evidence
 - reporting and recording forms
- specifications:
 - workplace horse health programs and procedures for the tasks specified in the performance evidence.

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>

