



Australian Government

ACMEQU424 Evaluate equine service or therapy provision

Release: 1

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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 to assess the merits of available equine services, review likely outcomes and validity of options, and select credible industry practitioners to provide services.

The unit applies to individuals who have responsibility for the health and wellbeing of horses. They work autonomously and apply technical knowledge and skills to provide and communicate solutions for predictable and unpredictable problems, working both independently and in conjunction with others.

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

Nil

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. Determine services or therapies suitable for use in horse health	1.1 Seek professional advice and/or veterinarian diagnosis to interpret signs of horse injuries, ailments and health problems 1.2 Research appropriate services and therapy or recovery modalities

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
management	for identified condition on the basis of evidence and credibility 1.3 Identify equipment used in relevant therapies and recovery or rehabilitation programs, and explore their purpose and effectiveness 1.4 Collaborate with veterinarians and/or other equine service practitioner to determine appropriate service, timelines and outcomes 1.5 Assess the risks to horse and workplace associated with selected service
2. Select equine service practitioner	2.1 Assess practitioner qualifications for rigour, credibility and compliance with relevant legislation 2.2 Seek and evaluate practitioner testimonials from a range of sources 2.3 Select appropriate practitioner based on assessment of qualifications, experience and testimonials
3. Implement and evaluate outcomes of selected equine service	3.1 Agree on expected outcomes and timelines for service or therapy with practitioner 3.2 Ensure a safe work environment and low stress, safe and humane handling practices are followed during service or therapy 3.3 Monitor and record horse progress against expected outcomes during service or therapy in collaboration with practitioner 3.4 Evaluate impact of service or therapy against expected outcomes 3.5 Adjust service or therapy based on horse response, taking into consideration practitioner, independent professional or veterinarian advice

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
Learning	Undertake independent research to inform own understanding and to critically assess services and therapies
Reading	Gather, interpret and analyse textual information from a range of sources to identify relevant information

Skill	Description
	Synthesise a range of textual information involving medical or veterinary terminology
Writing	Summarise key information in workplace documents using print-based or digital formats
Oral communication	Use questioning and listening skills to elicit opinions, clarify understanding and contribute to critical assessment of information

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMEQU424 Evaluate equine service or therapy provision	ACMPHR502 Manage horse health using selected therapies	Title changed Unit code AQF level indicator changed from 5 to 4 to reflect revised unit outcomes Changes to Performance Criteria and terminology for clarity Foundation Skills table and Assessment Requirements updated	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 ACMEQU424 Evaluate equine service or therapy provision

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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:

- researched at least three different services or therapies to address a horse health issue, and identified a credible practitioner for each, selected from:
 - horse massage therapy
 - other horse bodywork
 - equine dental technician
 - hoof care
 - diet and nutrition analysis and advice
 - horse behaviour analysis and advice
 - alternative or complementary therapies
- conducted a risk assessment relating to implementing the selected service or therapy
- implemented, monitored, recorded and evaluated outcomes of selected service or therapy for at least one horse with a health condition.

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:

- fundamentals of equine anatomy and physiology relevant to injuries, ailments and health care
- common horse injuries, ailments and health conditions
- signs, causes, progression and healing processes of common equine ailments and injuries
- range of services or therapies available for identified equine ailments and injuries, including:
 - horse massage therapy
 - other horse bodywork

- equine dentistry
- hoof care
- diet and nutrition analysis and advice
- equine behaviour analysis and advice
- alternative or complementary therapies – homeopathy, aromatherapy
- range of therapy modalities, including benefits, limits, scientific evidence and physiological plausibility
- common equipment used in services or therapies researched in performance evidence
- legislative regulations covering veterinary and equine health professional accreditation qualifications and licensing
- industry bodies, professional development, compliance and accreditation processes
- key requirements of work, health and safety regulations and guidelines relating to:
 - risk assessment, control and review
 - due diligence for staff and other personnel
 - safe horse handling techniques
 - use, storage, maintenance and replacement of personal protective equipment
- key requirements of relevant legislation and codes of practice, including:
 - biosecurity relevant to horse disease, infection control and hygiene standards
 - workplace health and safety relating to interactions with horses
 - animal welfare relating to the safe, humane and ethical care of 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 as specified in the performance evidence, assessed as suitable for the experience and skill of the individual
 - workplace recording or reporting formats
- specifications:
 - health records for individual horses
- relationships:
 - access to veterinarian or equine health professional relevant to 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.

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