



Australian Government

ACMEQU508 Relate equine anatomical and physiological features to equine health care requirements

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 covers the skills and knowledge required to evaluate a range of equine diseases, illnesses and injuries and describe their potential impact on body systems and the health of horses.

The unit applies to individuals who have responsibility for providing health care to ensure the wellbeing and efficient physiological function of horses. They work autonomously and apply specialist knowledge and skills to provide and communicate solutions for predictable and unpredictable problems to clients or carers.

Work, health and safety and animal welfare legislation relevant to interacting with horses applies to workers in this industry. Requirements vary between industry sectors and state/territory jurisdictions. Users are advised to check with the relevant authority for specific requirements.

No licensing, legislative, regulatory 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. Identify and locate	1.1 Identify characteristics and location of equine musculoskeletal

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
systemic anatomical features of horse	structures using anatomical features and terminology 1.2 Use anatomical orientation terminology to describe systemic anatomical features
2. Identify systemic and pathophysiological systems of horse	2.1 Identify structure and function of cellular biology and its relationship to growth, injury, healing and repair 2.2 Identify key structures and functions of major equine anatomical systems 2.3 Outline functional changes that accompany a particular syndrome or disease
3. Evaluate impact of disease, illness or injury on treatment priorities	3.1 Recognise indicators of horse health and wellbeing, and signs of common disease, illness or injury 3.2 Relate temperature regulation to overall horse health and wellbeing 3.3 Relate horse behaviour to signs of disease, illness or injury 3.4 Relate treatment of disease, illness or injury to health care priorities 3.5 Make treatment priority decisions based on animal welfare needs and potential ongoing impact of disease, illness or injury

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 analyse complex technical information relating to equine body systems

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status

ACMEQU508 Relate equine anatomical and physiological features to equine health care requirements	ACMEQU401 Relate equine anatomical and physiological features to equine health care requirements	Code revised to reflect level of theoretical and technical knowledge Element 2 revised with content detail moved to Knowledge Evidence Minor changes to Performance Criteria for clarity Foundation Skills table and Assessment Requirements updated	Equivalent
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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 ACMEQU508 Relate equine anatomical and physiological features to equine health care requirements

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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:

- applied knowledge of equine anatomical and physiological features in assessing health care requirements for at least six different horses, including:
 - evaluated a range of common diseases, illnesses and injuries and their impact on relevant body systems
 - observed and identified horse behavioural characteristics that indicate distress or illness
 - made informed decisions on prioritising treatments to maintain health and wellbeing of each horse.

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:

- key equine anatomical and physiological features, structures and function of:
 - cellular biology and its relationship to growth, injury, healing and repair
 - integumentary system
 - musculoskeletal system
 - respiratory system
 - cardiovascular system
 - digestive system
 - reproductive system
 - nervous and endocrine systems
 - immune systems

- hepatic system
- urinary system
- interactions and relationships between body systems
- anatomical directional terminology
- common indicators of:
 - horse health and wellbeing
 - horse distress, illness and disease
- common diseases, illnesses and injuries
- causes and consequences of common diseases, infections and injuries
- contagious disease symptoms, prophylaxis and biosecurity protocols
- range and role of different equine allied health practitioners
- types of equine therapies and treatments commonly available
- industry, veterinary and anatomical terminology related to equine allied health care
- normal and abnormal characteristics of horse behaviour
- key principles and practices of animal welfare relating to health care requirements of equines.

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:
 - access to information on equine anatomical features and systemic and pathophysiologic systems of equines and equine diseases, illnesses and injuries
 - live horses or case studies of horses with different health care requirements as specified in the performance evidence.

Two Companion Volumes are available:

- *Companion Volume: User Guide: Equine Allied Health* provides delivery and assessment information tailored for equine allied health practitioners
- *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

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