



Australian Government

ACMGAS205 Assist in health care of animals

Release: 1

ACMGAS205 Assist in health care of animals

Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 1.0.

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to provide assistance to experienced staff in the capture, restraint and assessment of animals and the preparation, application and documentation of treatments.

This unit applies to new entrants to the animal care and management industry. Animal care may occur in a wide variety of workplaces, including retail pet stores, kennels and catteries, shelters, veterinary practices, zoos, animal research facilities and others. In this context, individuals work under general supervision and exercise limited autonomy with some accountability for their own work. They undertake defined activities and work in a structured context.

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

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Unit Sector

General Animal Studies (GAS)

Elements and Performance Criteria

Element	Performance criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
1. Prepare to work with animals	1.1 Confirm the task to be undertaken with supervisor, including identifying potential hazards, risks and welfare needs of the animal 1.2 Take steps to control risks and hazards as directed 1.3 Prepare equipment appropriate to the task

Element	Performance criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	1.4 Select appropriate personal protective equipment and ensure correct fit
2. Capture animal under supervision	2.1 Identify animals to be treated and confirm with supervisor 2.2 Observe and note animal behaviour prior to capture 2.3 Confirm methods to be used to capture animals with supervisor 2.4 Confirm role of self and others in capture process 2.5 Approach cage appropriately and capture animal using appropriate method 2.6 Assist to move animal to inspection or treatment area
3. Assist in assessment of animals	3.1 Restrain animal appropriately 3.2 Determine external features and vital signs of animal health 3.3 Inspect animal's general health and wellbeing, under supervision 3.4 Record observations of patient made by supervisor
4. Assist in treatment of animals	4.1 Determine treatment protocols for common health maintenance issues 4.2 Prepare equipment and supplies according to instructions 4.3 Provide assistance in the application of treatments 4.4 Document treatment on animal file 4.5 Complete post-treatment routines

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
Navigate the world of	Knowing industry codes and regulations relevant to the role

Skill	Description
work	
Get the work done	• Problem-solve issues that arise with capture and restraint

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMGAS205 Assist in health care of animals	ACMGAS205A Assist in health care of animals	Updated to meet Standards for Training Packages Element added titled 'Prepare to work with animals' to cover safety requirements Assessment requirements revised	Equivalent unit

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 ACMGAS205 Assist in health care of animals

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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 assisted with the health care of a minimum of two different animals (covering at least two different species), including (for each):

- used safe and humane capture and restraint methods
- assisted in the assessment of live animal's health, including taking vital signs
- assisted in treating the animal
- documented the treatment and care.

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 temperaments and behaviour and the associated risks to animals and humans
- common health maintenance issues and treatment protocols
- environmental regulations relating to the disposal of hazardous waste
- examination techniques for health status
- methods used to safely capture, restrain and examine animals
- signs of progress or deterioration in condition or health of animals
- the principles of animal welfare and ethics as set out in relevant codes of practice
- vital signs, their normal range and reasons for concern for measurements outside normal range.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - a workplace that accurately reflects a real workplace setting

- resources, equipment and materials:
 - a range of real, live animals
 - equipment and resources typically available in an animal care facility
- specifications:
 - access to current legislation and relevant codes of practice
- relationships (internal and/or external):
 - interactions with supervisor.

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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