



Australian Government

ACMGAS301 Maintain and monitor animal health and wellbeing

Release: 1

ACMGAS301 Maintain and monitor animal health and wellbeing

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 follow animal health management practices to monitor animal health via daily observations of behaviour and condition.

This unit is applicable to those working in animal care industry sectors where it may be necessary to care for a range of animal species and to monitor the wellbeing of healthy, ill or injured animals by observing and measuring indicators of ideal and poor development or response to treatments. These animals may be being kept long-term in the workplace or being raised or prepared for sale, rehousing or release to their native habitat.

This unit applies to individuals who work under broad supervision and provide and communicate solutions to a range of predictable problems.

Regulatory requirements apply to this unit but vary according to state/territory jurisdictions. Users are advised to check with the relevant regulatory authority.

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. Follow animal health management practices	1.1 Maintain personal health and hygiene standards 1.2 Identify animal diseases and their impact on animals and humans

Element	Performance criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	1.3 Identify broad categories of parasitic infestations 1.4 Prepare and maintain quarantine areas in accordance with quarantine protocols 1.5 Identify and isolate animals requiring quarantine 1.6 Maintain quarantine records 1.7 Use and maintain personal protective equipment
2. Monitor and maintain the physical wellbeing of animals	2.1 Identify and examine different types of animals' anatomy and physiology to determine physical appearance and particular body structures, and record observations 2.2 Monitor and test indicators of animal health regularly, and follow quarantine requirements involving movement of animals within or between facilities 2.3 Assess the physical environment of animals for evidence of problems that may affect the physical wellbeing and welfare of animals 2.4 Maintain records of animal activity monitoring, and health information
3. Identify and report signs of ill health or injury in animals	3.1 Recognise signs of illness or injury and report to supervisor 3.2 Recognise abnormal animal behaviour and conditions and report to supervisor 3.3 Collect samples and record as directed 3.4 Separate sick or injured animals from other animals, as required, and care for as advised by supervisor or veterinarian 3.5 Handle animals that are ill or injured appropriately
4. Administer and record animal treatments	4.1 Administer authorised animal treatments under supervision, and record dosages 4.2 Monitor, administer and record routine preventative health treatments regularly 4.3 Store treatments appropriately according to workplace procedures 4.4 Complete records relating to the nature of treatment, and animal health status before and after treatment

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	Accurately interpret animal treatment plans

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMGAS301 Maintain and monitor animal health and wellbeing	ACMGAS301A Maintain and monitor animal health and wellbeing	Updated to meet Standards for Training Packages	Equivalent unit

Links

Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: - <https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=c6399549-9c62-4a5e-bf1a-524b2322cf72>

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Assessment Requirements for ACMGAS301 Maintain and monitor animal health and wellbeing

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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 maintained and monitored the health and wellbeing of a minimum of three different animals and, on each occasion, the individual must have:

- applied work practices for personal safety and personal hygiene standards
- monitored and tested indicators of animal health
- assessed the physical environment of animals for evidence of problems that may have affected the physical wellbeing and welfare of animals
- maintained records of quarantine, observations, monitoring activities and samples
- administered treatments under supervision.

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:

- anatomical and physiological structures and functions related to animal health and wellbeing
- anatomical and physiological terminology and glossary of terms
- broad categories of parasitic infestations
- common infectious diseases, including:
 - bacteria
 - fungi
 - internal and external parasites
 - virus
 - zoonoses
- common non-infectious diseases, including:
 - allergies

- chemical toxicities
- genetic
- metabolic
- neoplastic
- nutritional
- indicators of animal health
- observing and reporting unusual behaviour for nominated animal:
 - aggression or docility (depending on animal)
 - disinterest in surroundings, other animals, people or usual stimuli
 - excessive licking, scratching and rubbing
 - lethargy
 - nest building
 - self-mutilation
 - trembling
 - vocalising
- observing and reporting indicators of illness or injury:
 - bleeding
 - changes in drinking or eating patterns
 - lameness or reluctance to move and vocalising when attempting to move
 - swelling
 - unusual amounts, colour or texture of faeces
- indicators of poor response to treatment or management of young, ill, injured or compromised animals
- indicators of recovery from illness or injury
- quarantine protocols
- safe work practices
- the methods used to measure, interpret and record animals' weight and other objective measures of animal health
- the principles of animal welfare and ethics.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - a workplace or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - a range of animals
 - equipment and resources typically available in an animal care environment
- specifications:
 - access to organisational policies and procedures, 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.

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