



Australian Government

ACMGEN311 Maintain and monitor animal health and wellbeing

Release: 1

ACMGEN311 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 4.0.

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. The animals may include a range of species housed long-term or cared for short-term in a workplace.

This unit applies to individuals undertaking animal care activities in small to large scale animal facilities where it may be necessary to care for a range of animal species and to monitor the wellbeing of healthy, ill or injured animals. They work under broad direction, typically in a team environment, and are required to take responsibility for their own work, including carrying out assigned tasks, organising processes, solving routine problems and working to schedules.

All work must be carried out to comply with workplace procedures according to Commonwealth and state/territory health and safety and animal welfare regulations, legislation and standards that apply to the workplace.

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

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Unit Sector

General Animal Care (GEN)

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. Follow animal health	1.1 Maintain personal health and hygiene standards according to

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<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
management practices	workplace requirements 1.2 Select, fit and correctly use personal protective equipment 1.3 Categorise broad types of common animal disease and their impact on animals and humans 1.4 Identify and describe broad categories of parasitic infestations in animals 1.5 Prepare and maintain isolation and/or quarantine areas in accordance with workplace procedures 1.6 Identify and isolate and/or quarantine relevant animals, and maintain records
2. Monitor and maintain the physical wellbeing of animals	2.1 Identify key features and changes in physical appearance and body structure of animal species housed or cared for in the workplace 2.2 Monitor and test indicators of animal health regularly, and follow isolation and/or 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 observations, 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 according to workplace procedures 3.3 Collect samples and record as required 3.4 Separate sick or injured animals from other animals and care for as advised by supervisor or veterinarian 3.5 Handle animals that are ill or injured safely and appropriately using low stress methods
4. Administer and record animal treatments	4.1 Administer prescribed animal treatments under supervision, and record dosages 4.2 Monitor, administer and record routine preventative health treatments as required 4.3 Store treatments and medications appropriately according to workplace procedures

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	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	Interpret animal treatment plans accurately
Writing	Use industry terminology when completing records
Numeracy	- Calculate volume, weight, area, ratio, time and application rates - Interpret numerical information provided with animal treatment products and equipment

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMGEN311 Maintain and monitor animal health and wellbeing	ACMGAS301 Maintain and monitor animal health and wellbeing	Minor changes to performance criteria for clarity Assessment requirements updated	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 ACMGEN311 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 conditions that may have affected the physical wellbeing and welfare of animals
- maintained records of observations, monitoring activities and samples, including isolation and/or quarantine records where required
- selected, fitted and correctly used personal protective equipment
- 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
- overview of anatomical and physiological terminology
- broad categories of parasitic infestations and preventative treatments
- common infectious diseases and their causes and transmission, including:
 - bacteria
 - fungi
 - virus
 - zoonoses
- common non-infectious diseases, including:

- allergies
- chemical toxicities
- genetic
- metabolic
- neoplastic
- nutritional
- observing and reporting normal species-specific behaviour and indicators of ill health, injury or distress
- indicators of poor response to treatment or management of young, ill, injured or compromised animals
- indicators of recovery from illness or injury
- isolation and/or quarantine protocols
- safe work practices related to animal handling, including infection control
- methods used to measure, interpret and record animals' weight and other objective measures of animal health
- key principles of animal welfare and ethics.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of the skills in this unit of competency must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - an animal care facility or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - live animals specified in the performance evidence
 - videos/photos may be used for identification of diseases where live samples are not available
 - equipment and resources typically available in an animal care environment for animal health assessment and isolation and/or quarantine, including personal protective equipment
- specifications:
 - workplace policies and procedures, and current, relevant legislation and codes of practice related to animal health assessment and isolation and/or quarantine
- relationships:
 - 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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