



Australian Government

ACMHBR312 Carry out procedures for foaling down mares

Release: 1

ACMHBR312 Carry out procedures for foaling down mares

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 monitor mares and their newborn at foaling, and refer high risk issues or problems for expert advice.

The unit applies to individuals who work under broad direction and take responsibility for their own work. They complete routine activities and work in a range of known contexts within horse breeding and other horse industry environments.

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

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.

NOTE: The terms ‘occupational health and safety’ (OHS) and ‘work health and safety’ (WHS) generally have the same meaning in the workplace. In jurisdictions where the national model WHS legislation has not been implemented, RTOs must contextualise the unit of competency by referring to current OHS legislative requirements.

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Unit Sector

Horse Breeding (HBR)

Elements and Performance Criteria

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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>

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1. Prepare for foaling	1.1 Assess and monitor condition and health status of pregnant mare prior to foaling 1.2 Identify hazards and assess and control risks in assisting with birthing, and follow safe work and safe horse handling practices 1.3 Check and prepare birthing equipment, resources and materials, and environment 1.4 Move mares to an area where intervention can be carried out with minimal disruption and where biosecurity and quarantine procedures can be implemented 1.5 Check mating or artificial insemination records and confirm anticipated foaling date 1.6 Prepare a foaling plan according to workplace practices
2. Monitor the foaling process	2.1 Make regular observations to detect the signs of parturition 2.2 Prepare a pregnant mare for foaling 2.3 Check regularly for signs of problems that may occur during foaling, and seek professional advice if required 2.4 Make regular observations of mare and foal during foaling 2.5 Ensure the foaling environment, facilities and equipment are maintained in a safe, hygienic and operational state 2.6 Update and maintain records of foaling and foaling outcomes
3. Carry out monitoring after foal has been born	3.1 Allow mare to lie and rest for as long as possible 3.2 Allow the foal to stand to break the umbilical cord and treat stump with iodine 3.3 Assist with tying the placenta after the mare stands and checking for expulsion 3.4 Examine the placenta to ensure no part of it has been retained 3.5 Monitor the mare and foal for nursing and general health 3.6 Maintain foaling environment, facilities and equipment in a safe, hygienic and operational state, and report or fix faults 3.7 Update foaling records accurately according to workplace practices
4. Care for newborn foals	4.1 Monitor and report on the health of newborn foal 4.2 Record the markings and other identifying features of newly born

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	foals 4.3 Report conditions or signs of ill health requiring veterinary assistance

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
Numeracy	Use basic arithmetic to calculate gestation times and expected birthing dates
Navigate the world of work	Comply with workplace procedures, including safe work and horse handling practices, and animal welfare requirements, in own role and work area
Interact with others	Work cooperatively with other personnel using clear communication techniques to report foaling activity
Get the work done	Plan and sequence multiple tasks, monitoring activity and prioritising tasks to achieve outcomes

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMHBR312 Carry out procedures for foaling down mares	AHCLSK330A Implement procedures for foaling down mares	Updated to meet Standards for Training Packages Code and title changed to reflect outcome and appropriate industry sector usage	Equivalent unit
	AHCHBR204A Assist with mating	Incorporates foaling down content only	No equivalent unit

	procedures and parturition of horses		
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Links

Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=c6399549-9c62-4a5e-bf1a-524b2322cf72>

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 ACMHBR312 Carry out procedures for foaling down mares

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Performance Evidence

An individual demonstrating competency in this unit must satisfy all of the elements and performance criteria of this unit.

There must be evidence that the individual has foaled down at least one mare, including:

- identifying hazards and controlling risks in foaling environment
- preparing foaling environment, materials and resources to industry standards
- carrying out mare husbandry procedures and detecting signs of imminent foaling
- monitoring mare condition and wellbeing
- assisting at foaling in the event of difficulties
- assisting with tying up placenta once mare stands
- detecting abnormalities in foaling behaviour, expulsion of foetus and placenta, and progress of foal immediately after birth
- handling newly born foals safely
- recording and reporting details of mares and foals according to workplace requirements.

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:

- principles and practices for foaling down mares, including:
 - signs of dystocia or malpresentation by timing rate of progress in giving birth and the initial presentation of the foal
 - stages of foaling, including water breaking, expulsion of the foetus, and expulsion of afterbirth
 - scenarios where specialist advice or assistance is needed
 - reasons for undertaking and timing of IgG (immunoglobulin) test on newborn foals
 - features of safe and secure post-foaling environment
- safe work practices:
 - safe and ethical horse handling techniques

- hazard identification and practices for controlling risks in foaling and post-foaling environment
- personal protective equipment (PPE)
- maintaining hygienic and environmentally responsible workplace practices
- workplace recording and reporting requirements.

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:
 - various live mares in-foal and newborn foals assessed as suitable for the experience and skill of the individual
 - appropriate tack for horse and activity
 - PPE correctly fitted and applicable to activity for the individual
 - equipment required for foaling down
- specifications:
 - work instructions for carrying out foaling down of mares
 - foaling recording/reporting forms.

Training and assessment strategies must show evidence of the use of guidance provided in the *Companion Volume: User Guide: Safety in Equine Training*.

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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