



Australian Government

ACMINF101 Take responsibility for the health and welfare of animals in own care

Release: 1

ACMINF101 Take responsibility for the health and welfare of animals in own care

Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 2.0.

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to care for the health and welfare of companion animals under an individual's personal responsibility. It covers duty of care, personal safety and hygiene, and welfare and health care of companion animals. The unit focuses on dogs and cats. It may cover other companion animals relevant to the community or workplace environment.

The unit applies to individuals who handle and care for companion animals in a community or neighbourhood context including shared animals. They work in known contexts dealing with routine tasks.

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

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Unit Sector

Infection control (INF)

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 personal duty of care for companion animals	1.1 Participate in oral conversation with relevant personnel to identify the key requirements of animal welfare and responsible pet/animal ownership 1.2 Identify relevant requirements governing animal

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	ownership in own area, including welfare, registration, microchipping, confinement and desexing
2. Maintain personal safety and hygiene when handling companion animals	2.1 Wash hands before and after handling animals and cleaning animal environments 2.2 Check own skin and cover cuts and abrasions before handling animals to prevent infections 2.3 Observe animal behaviour for safety risks and make a decision that it is safe before approaching or handling the animal 2.4 Select and fit appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) according to task and organisational requirements
3. Care for the welfare of companion animals	3.1 Supply clean water, appropriate food and bedding or shelter to promote animal health and wellbeing 3.2 Confine or restrain animals safely and humanely to protect from potential injuries, accidents and diseases and prevent behaviours that disturb others 3.3 Treat animals in a humane manner to avoid pain and suffering and maximise wellbeing 3.4 Identify simple strategies that can be used to encourage positive animal behaviours and avoid negative impacts on people and/or other animals
4. Care for the health of companion animals	4.1 Check the recommended vaccination requirements for relevant animals 4.2 Identify signs of poor health and/or disease and check animals regularly for these signs 4.3 Carry out routine control of internal and external parasites according to product or veterinary instructions 4.4 Seek advice or treatments from veterinarian, or local council or regional services, for animals needing care beyond own capability

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 information on labels about products such as cleaning agents and routine animal treatments
Oral communication	Use active listening and questioning techniques to obtain and give clear information to others
Numeracy	Interpret measurements and other numerical information on product labels and user instructions
Navigate the world of work	Recognise the importance of animal welfare and infection control in the concept of 'healthy animals equals healthy people'
Get the work done	Plan simple activities relating to companion animal care and health to achieve positive outcomes

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMINF101 Take responsibility for the health and welfare of animals in own care	Not applicable	New unit	No 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 ACMINF101 Take responsibility for the health and welfare of animals in own care

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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:

- safely handled at least three different companion animals
- correctly recognised two different clinical signs of diseases in at least two different companion animal species
- carried out at least three different animal care and infection control activities, from the list below, covering two live companion animals:
 - providing food and fresh water and checking for contamination
 - treating parasites/skin conditions on animals
 - washing/grooming an animal
 - cleaning animal bedding
 - cleaning enclosures or yards
 - separating an animal with an infectious disease from other animals
 - organising veterinary or local council or regional services treatments
 - personal hygiene when handling or working with animals.

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:

- basic meaning of duty of care and animal welfare, including:
 - appropriate shelter
 - managing animals in own care
 - provision of food and water
 - health care
 - humane handling and treatment and awareness of consequences of neglecting or mistreating animals

- awareness of state/territory legislation relating to animal welfare and cruelty to animals
- simple concepts of benefits to the community and to the animal, including:
 - desexing animals (chemical and surgical) for population control and health of animal and offspring
 - containing animals to protect people, wildlife and other animals
 - preventing and controlling disease
 - vaccination and veterinary treatment
- local government and/or state/territory requirements relating to animal registration, microchipping, confinement and desexing in own area
- basic companion animal behaviour and body language depicting different emotions, including distressed, aggressive and relaxed
- common animal infections and diseases, including:
 - mange/scabies
 - fleas, ticks and lice
 - ringworm
 - worms, including tapeworm, hook worm and round worm
- basic treatments for common infections and diseases that can be administered without veterinary advice
- basic principles of how diseases can be transmitted and spread, including:
 - between animals
 - between animals and people
- basic principles of links between human health and animal health
- common cleaning materials, disinfectants and personal protective equipment and how to use them
- simple strategies to encourage positive companion animal behaviour, including:
 - socialisation
 - rewards—based training methods
 - humane handling and treatment.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - skills must be demonstrated in a community or workplace environment
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - live companion animals
 - cleaning equipment and materials
 - personal protective equipment used in animal care.

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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