



Australian Government

ACMINF301 Comply with infection control policies and procedures in animal care work

Release: 2

ACMINF301 Comply with infection control policies and procedures in animal care work

Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 2	This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 2.0.
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 comply with biosecurity and infection control policies and procedures in animal care workplaces and relevant field locations. Workplaces may include veterinary practices, catteries/kennels/shelters, pet grooming and equine services.

This unit applies to animal care workers who have a duty of care to maintain biosecurity and infection control standards. They work under broad direction, take responsibility for their own work, solve routine problems and use discretion and judgement in the use of available resources.

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

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. Follow biosecurity and infection control	1.1 Apply standard biosecurity and infection control precautions in

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
guidelines	all aspects of work 1.2 Apply additional, including transmission-based, precautions when standard precautions alone may not be sufficient to prevent transmission of infection 1.3 Follow workplace reporting and documentation requirements related to infection control procedures
2. Recognise signs of abnormal health and disease in animals	2.1 Identify signs of ill health or abnormal condition in animals that may indicate disease 2.2 Recognise signs of potential infectious diseases in animals 2.3 Maintain knowledge of main zoonoses and emerging contagious diseases relevant to animal care sector 2.4 Report signs of ill health, including potential infectious and/or zoonotic disease, to supervisor and/or seek veterinarian advice according to workplace procedures 2.5 Complete workplace records and follow procedures for reporting a notifiable disease to relevant personnel
3. Identify and respond to infection risks	3.1 Identify infection risks and report according to workplace procedures 3.2 Implement specific risk response according to workplace procedures 3.3 Follow workplace protocols for care following cuts, injury or exposure to bodily fluids and excrement 3.4 Remove biological spills following workplace procedures 3.5 Report infection control accidents/incidents and action risk control procedures
4. Maintain personal protection	4.1 Maintain personal vaccinations/immunisations according to workplace requirements 4.2 Maintain hand hygiene before and after animal contact and any activity likely to cause cross-contamination 4.3 Implement hand care in line with workplace procedures 4.4 Select, fit and use personal protective equipment and contamination prevention clothing according to workplace requirements
5. Prevent spread of	5.1 Demarcate and maintain clean and contaminated zones in all

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
potential pathogens	aspects of animal care work 5.2 Follow demarcation procedures involving the movement of animals within or between facilities 5.3 Isolate animals identified or suspected of presenting with a contagious or zoonotic disease and seek veterinary advice 5.4 Clean, disinfect and/or sterilise work surfaces, materials, equipment and instruments 5.5 Handle and process soiled laundry and protective clothing according to workplace procedures 5.6 Identify hazards to animal and human health from food sources and implement methods used to manage potential risks 5.7 Follow workplace rodent and vector control procedures 5.8 Handle and dispose of biological and general waste according to environmental and workplace requirements 5.9 Provide animal care facility clients/customers with information regarding biosecurity and infection control, including risks of zoonoses
6. Contribute to incursion readiness processes	6.1 Maintain infectious disease control kit for responding to infectious disease outbreaks and suspected outbreaks 6.2 Make contributions to the review and revision of the workplace biosecurity and infection control plan 6.3 Update and maintain biosecurity and infection control documentation according to workplace policies and procedures

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	Access and interpret key information in workplace policies and procedures
Numeracy	Identify and interpret numerical information found on cleaning product labels and safety data sheets, including quantity, temperature, mixing

Skill	Description
	ratio, application rate and withholding time
Navigate the world of work	- Recognise the importance of biosecurity and infection control associated with own role and work - Take responsibility for following workplace and regulatory requirements for recording and reporting information
Interact with others	Work collaboratively with others to achieve joint outcomes
Get the work done	Plan and assemble resources and sequence activities relating to biosecurity and infection control activities to achieve positive outcomes

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMINF301 Comply with infection control policies and procedures in animal care work Release 2	ACMINF301 Comply with infection control policies and procedures in animal care work Release 1	Minor changes to performance criteria to increase clarity and reflect industry trends relating to biosecurity. 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 ACMINF301 Comply with infection control policies and procedures in animal care work

Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 2	This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 2.0.
Release 1	This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 1.0.

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:

- reviewed workplace biosecurity and infection control policy and procedures in an animal care environment to:
 - identify requirements relevant to an animal carer's role
 - contribute at least two suggestions for updates
- recognised signs of at least four different infectious diseases (including at least two zoonotic diseases) in two different animal species
- carried out infection control activities on at least three separate occasions to prevent the transfer of disease in the following situations:
 - animal to person
 - animal to animal.

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:

- key principles of biosecurity and infection control for animals, including:
 - personal hygiene, vaccinations/immunisation and personal protective equipment (PPE)
 - prevention of disease (biosecurity) and containment (infection control)
 - ways of spreading infections and diseases including people, animals, environment and equipment
 - cleaning, disinfecting and/or sterilising equipment
 - appropriate reprocessing of reusable equipment
 - limiting movement of animals and contact with people

- limiting environmental contamination including pests, vermin and vector
- reporting incidents and contagious diseases
- standard precautions for the care and treatment of all animals, regardless of their perceived or confirmed infectious status for animal care, including:
 - personal hygiene practices especially washing and drying hands, including before and after animal contact and respiratory hygiene
 - personal vaccination/immunisation requirements
 - safe handling and disposal of sharps and other clinical, related and general waste
 - surface cleaning and management of bodily fluid spills including blood, urine and excrement
 - disposal of biological waste
 - techniques to limit contamination
 - use of PPE
- transmission-based precautions, when standard precautions are not sufficient, tailored to the specific infection agent involved and its mode of transmission, including:
 - additional use of PPE
 - dedicated equipment, to each animal or as appropriate to work function
 - isolation
 - restricted movement of animal, staff and visitors/customers
 - use of a special facility
- aseptic techniques
- basic microbiology, including:
 - bacteria and bacterial spores
 - fungi
 - viruses
 - microbial resistance and use of antibiotics
- common viruses that affect animals
- common zoonotic diseases and transmission
- risk of acquisition
- waste disposal methods compliant with environmental protection (waste management) legislation and regulations
- immunisation/vaccination requirements for animal care workers where applicable
- rodent and vector control procedures
- overview of key requirements in relevant state or territory legislation and regulations relating to health and safety in the workplace, animal welfare, biosecurity procedures and waste disposal
- safe animal handling techniques
- terminology used to describe and document animal health and behavioural signs
- the purpose and use of containment and isolation facilities
- features of infectious disease control kit
- workplace hygiene standards, disinfectants, cleaning agents, cleaning techniques and cleaning equipment and materials.

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 or suitable taxidermy specimens, veterinary simulators, anatomical models or images/video or a combination of these
 - equipment and resources typically available in an animal care facility
 - appropriate PPE and contamination prevention clothing
 - cleaning equipment and materials
 - cleaning product user instructions and/or safety data sheets
- specifications:
 - workplace policies and procedures for infection control and biosecurity
 - access to current legislation, regulations and relevant codes of practice for infection control and biosecurity.

Assessors of this unit must satisfy the requirements for assessors in applicable vocational education and training legislation, frameworks and/or standards.

Links

Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: -
<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=b75f4b23-54c9-4cc9-a5db-d3502d154103>