



Australian Government

ACMINF302 Follow equine biosecurity and infection control procedures

Release: 1

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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 address public health safety by applying equine biosecurity and infection control procedures. It covers activities designed to prevent and minimise disease transmission within and between equine work sites and populations.

The unit applies to individuals who care for equines and work in various establishments holding, caring, housing or breeding equines. 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. The unit is applicable to a range of equine contexts.

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.

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. Follow biosecurity and	1.1 Access and review workplace infection control and

Elements	Performance Criteria
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infection control procedures for equine work site	biosecurity procedures applicable to own role and work site 1.2 Follow personal hygiene requirements, select, fit and use personal protective equipment and maintain personal vaccinations/immunisations according to workplace requirements 1.3 Maintain knowledge of equine infectious and zoonotic diseases and emerging trends
2. Monitor equines for signs of ill health and disease	2.1 Carry out and record routine disease prevention for equines in care, including parasite control and routine vaccinations according to veterinary instructions 2.2 Monitor physical condition and recognise clinical signs of common equine infectious and zoonotic diseases 2.3 Take and record the temperature, pulse and respiration of the equine accurately and communicate abnormal conditions according to workplace procedures 2.4 Check equine housing and outdoor environments and control potential sources of contaminants and disease risks 2.5 Separate sick or suspect equines according to workplace infection control and quarantine procedures 2.6 Discuss incubation and infectious periods, diagnosis and treatment options for relevant diseases with supervisor and seek advice from veterinarian
3. Monitor equine movements to minimise disease infection	3.1 Follow instructions and record equine movement to minimise transfer of disease on, off and within the work site 3.2 Check records of visiting equines prior to entry and keep visiting and resident equines separate on site 3.3 Restrict movement of equines to designated zones or pathways relevant to treatment or activity to be carried out 3.4 Prepare equines for travel according to workplace procedures
4. Comply with guidelines for monitoring people on site	4.1 Follow procedures for registering and overseeing the movement of people coming into, moving within and leaving the work site to minimise possible disease transfer 4.2 Direct staff and visitors to washing facilities if handling or inspecting equines and their equipment 4.3 Identify risks and explain workplace procedures to people who visit multiple sites or handle ill equines to prevent risk of

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	disease spread
5. Monitor movement of vehicles and supplies on-site	5.1 Follow procedures for restricting movements of visiting vehicles and deliveries to reduce the risk of disease and contaminants spreading to property 5.2 Store equine tack, equipment and bedding separately for resident and visiting equines 5.3 Check stock feed, fodder and water and locate away from potential sources of contamination and store in designated areas
6. Follow procedures for pest, waste and stock disposal	6.1 Follow waste management movement, collection and storage practices to minimise disease transfer 6.2 Identify pest animals and vermin and follow control program requirements 6.3 Dispose of biological products according to workplace instructions and environmental and local government requirements
7. Keep infection control and biosecurity records up-to-date	7.1 Complete workplace records related to biosecurity and infection control accurately within required timelines and store in designated location 7.2 Comply with workplace and regulatory requirements for reporting suspicions of notifiable diseases 7.3 Ensure personal training records for biosecurity and infection control are maintained

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 and locate key information in written records and workplace procedures
Oral communication	Provide clear information and instructions using appropriate tone and language to worksite employees and visitors

Skill	Description
	• Use active listening and questioning techniques to clarify and confirm information
Navigate the world of work	• Take responsibility for adherence to biosecurity and infection control procedures relating to own role
Interact with others	• Follow workplace practices and protocols and adjust for reporting and communicating with a range of personnel
Get the work done	• Plan and sequence multiple activities and actively monitor equines in own work area • Make decisions and implement standard procedures for routine tasks; reporting or seeking advice on more complex and non-routine situations

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMINF302 Follow equine biosecurity and infection control procedures	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 ACMINF302 Follow equine biosecurity and infection control procedures

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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:

- carried out and recorded routine health care and disease prevention activities for at least three different equines
- carried out at least five different biosecurity and infection control activities relevant to own work site or other equine venue from the following:
 - vaccinated and/or wormed equines and other animals
 - controlled rodents and pest animals
 - protected equine feed and water from contaminants
 - separated and treated sick animals, including in quarantine areas
 - managed movement in and out of potential infection areas
 - reduced the risk of exposure to insects and pests
 - practised personal hygiene, including washing, disinfecting and sanitising hands
 - disposed of biological waste
 - provided prompt and effective first aid treatment to cuts and scratches
 - selected, fitted and used personal protective equipment (PPE) including, overalls, gloves, boots, goggles and aprons
 - cleaned and/or disinfected work spaces and equipment.

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:

- meaning and significance of the terms:
 - acute and chronic
 - vector and host
 - notifiable
 - pathogen

- zoonosis
- infectious
- infectious and zoonotic equine diseases, including:
 - diseases caused by bacteria, including strangles, listeriosis, tetanus and equine chlamydiosis (psittacosis)
 - diseases caused by fungi, including ringworm
 - diseases caused by parasites
 - diseases caused by viruses, including Hendra virus, equine herpes virus and equine influenza
- basic overview of infectious and zoonotic equine diseases, including:
 - clinical signs and typical histories
 - incubation period and infectious period
 - common treatment protocols
 - microbial resistance and use of antibiotics
- work activities, job roles and environments most 'at risk' of infection from zoonotic diseases transmitted from contact with equines
- methods of transmission of diseases amongst equines, including:
 - mixing of groups of equines
 - introduction of new equines onto a property
 - contact with equine professionals including, veterinarians, equine dentists and farriers/hoof trimmers
 - movement of vehicles and equipment
 - environmental conditions including vermin and pests
- methods to prevent and control common diseases, including:
 - vaccinating equines and other animals
 - worming equines and other animals
 - controlling rodents and pest animals
 - protecting equine feed and water from contaminants including exposure to excrement and bodily fluids from flying foxes
 - separating and treating sick animals, including quarantine areas
 - managing movement in and out of potential infection areas
 - reducing the risk of exposure to insects and pests
 - practicing good personal hygiene, including washing, disinfecting and sanitising hands
 - providing prompt and effective first aid treatment to cuts and scratches
 - disposing of biological waste, including deceased animals
 - using PPE including, overalls, gloves, boots, goggles, aprons
 - cleaning and disinfecting work spaces and equipment
 - ensuring only veterinarian prescribed antibiotics are administered to limit microbial resistance
- treatments for common animal infections and diseases, including:
 - state/territory restrictions on the administration of particular drugs

- use of antibiotics and microbial resistance
- workplace recording and reporting requirements
- notifiable conditions and diseases, including:
 - seeking veterinary advice about reporting
 - state or territory regulations about reporting
 - responsibilities for reporting
 - reasons for reporting.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - skills must be demonstrated in an equine venue, property or work site or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - access to live equines assessed as suitable for the skills and experience of the candidate
 - visual and/or documented reports of equines with signs of infectious and zoonotic equine diseases
- specifications:
 - workplace biosecurity and infection control procedures and associated documentation.

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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