



Australian Government

Assessment Requirements for ACMINF303 Implement infection control in the handling and care of native wildlife

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.

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 captured and handled at least three different native wildlife animals using correct techniques, equipment and personal protective equipment (PPE), including:
 - one adult animal
 - one animal requiring basic first aid
 - one young orphan
- correctly recognised the signs of at least five different diseases in wildlife, covering at least two of the following native wildlife groups:
 - mammals including marsupials and monotremes
 - birds
 - reptiles
 - amphibians
- assessed the risks and followed infection control guidelines when caring for at least three different native wildlife animals
- completed written records related to handling/caring for an injured, orphaned or diseased animal following animal welfare agency and regulatory 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:

- state/territory wildlife and animal welfare regulatory requirements, including:
 - authorisation to provide rehabilitation shelters and/or foster care
 - not keeping wildlife as pets and relevant penalties
 - rules about displaying animals
 - rules about visitors to shelters
 - rehabilitation and release requirements

- categories of species including, threatened, unusual and pest species
- recording and reporting requirements
- state/territory legislation and codes of practice related to captured wildlife, biosecurity, health and safety in the workplace and animal welfare
- basic principles of infection control and biosecurity for wildlife, including:
 - personal hygiene, vaccinations/immunisation and PPE
 - ways of spreading infections and diseases including people, animals, environment and equipment
 - cleaning wildlife enclosures and bedding
 - cleaning, disinfecting and sterilising equipment
 - chemical and disinfectant contact times
 - limiting movement of wildlife and contact with people
 - appropriate levels of human contact
 - limiting environmental contamination including pests, vermin and noxious plants
 - reporting incidents and contagious diseases
- key terminology related to infection control and basic meanings, including:
 - biosecurity
 - contagious
 - zoonosis
 - pathogen
- risks in catching, handling and caring for native wildlife, including:
 - stressed, frightened behaviour from wildlife
 - injuries, including bites, scratches, kicks
 - zoonotic disease transmission
 - personal health and wellbeing including managing compassion fatigue
 - techniques and equipment for capturing wildlife
 - main wildlife species related to own work or environment
- signs of common injuries and infectious diseases (including zoonoses) affecting native wildlife, including:
 - sarcoptic mange (scabies) - parasitic/mite disease
 - lice, ticks, fleas
 - Q fever
 - ringworm
 - bat lyssavirus (ABLV) disease
 - hendra virus
 - parvovirus
 - psittacine circoviral disease (beak and feather disease)
 - salmonella
 - state/territory specific diseases
 - stress myopathy and dermatitis

- traumatic injuries including motor vehicles and shootings
- importance of public safety risks associated with bats/flying foxes and Australian bat lyssavirus
- how diseases can be transmitted and spread, including:
 - via pathogens
 - between animals
 - between animals and humans
 - between animals or humans and the environment
- basic types of pathogens, including:
 - viruses
 - bacteria
 - fungi
 - protozoa
 - internal parasites (worms)
 - external parasites (lice and mites)
- types of cleaning/sterilisation materials and disinfectants and their application and contact requirements
- procedures for reporting suspected infections or disease, including:
 - contacting veterinarian (wildlife) or doctor (humans)
 - agency supervisor
 - state/territory regulations reporting requirements.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - skills must be demonstrated in a wildlife care shelter workplace or an environment that accurately represents these conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - a range of live native wildlife
 - suitable taxidermy specimens, veterinary simulators, anatomical models or images/video if live animals cannot be obtained
 - disinfectants and cleaning equipment and materials
 - PPE used in animal care
 - wildlife enclosures or containers
- specifications:
 - animal welfare agency infection control guidelines.

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>