



Australian Government

ACMINF502 Manage equine biosecurity and infection control

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 manage biosecurity and infection control in a broad range of equine work sites, properties or contexts, and includes preventing the transfer of diseases from horses to horses, and from horses to humans. It covers knowledge of common equine diseases, and biosecurity and infection control principles and practices.

The unit applies to managers of equine businesses or work groups within an equine work site, who have responsibility for biosecurity and infection control.

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

ACMINF302 Follow equine biosecurity and infection control procedures

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. Assess the risk of the equine work site to the introduction of diseases	1.1 Research information on equine disease, infection control, biosecurity and emergency animal disease response 1.2 Identify and analyse the risks of introducing diseases or

Elements	Performance Criteria
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or contaminants	contaminants to the equine work site 1.3 Evaluate the level of risk and prioritise unacceptable or high-level risks specific to work site 1.4 Assess the risk of an emergency disease outbreak for work site and geographic area 1.5 Determine options for treating and/or minimising identified risks
2. Develop or update an equine biosecurity and infection control plan for work site	2.1 Document a plan to address areas of risk identified in work site risk assessment 2.2 Discuss proposed biosecurity and infection control plan with relevant personnel including a veterinarian and incorporate feedback 2.3 Prepare forms and documentation to support implementation of plan and to collect relevant information and data 2.4 Develop or update an action plan for addressing suspected emergency animal diseases 2.5 Ensure a travel kit containing first aid, biosecurity and infection control resources is prepared for equine travel and off-site activities
3. Implement disease prevention and biosecurity activities	3.1 Ensure all staff and relevant personnel are trained in procedures and requirements of the equine biosecurity and infection control plan 3.2 Train staff in equine health requirements and how to recognise, report and act on equine disease and/or contaminants according to workplace procedures 3.3 Implement management practices specific to work site to minimise the risk of introducing diseases or contaminants according to biosecurity and infection control plan 3.4 Oversee equine travel and off-site activities according to organisational biosecurity and infection control procedures
4. Monitor disease prevention and biosecurity activities	4.1 Monitor disease prevention and treatment programs against objectives and requirements of equine work site plan 4.2 Monitor isolation, quarantine and biosecurity arrangements according to work site plan 4.3 Monitor equine travel and off-site arrangements according to biosecurity and infection control procedures

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
5. Maintain records on disease prevention and biosecurity activities	5.1 Maintain up to date records relating to biosecurity and infection control for work site including records of training undertaken by work site personnel 5.2 Provide information on work site equine health and practices to relevant authorities 5.3 Report on notifiable diseases according to relevant state or territory government requirements
6. Review disease prevention and biosecurity plan for work site/property	6.1 Maintain a schedule for updating and reviewing biosecurity and infection control plan and supporting documentation 6.2 Collect and analyse information and data relating to equine disease prevention and biosecurity activities to improve risk management for work site/property 6.3 Obtain feedback from staff and/or relevant personnel to contribute to the review of policies, procedures and supporting documentation 6.4 Review biosecurity and biosecurity and infection control plan according to timetable for review and update as required

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
Oral communication	- Use active listening skills and questioning techniques to obtain and clarify information about biosecurity and infection control - Explain terminology, principles and concepts related to biosecurity and infection control to convey information appropriate to audience
Writing	Prepare succinct documents that use clear language and sequenced instructions
Navigate the world of work	- Recognise the importance of biosecurity and infection control to the work site and equine industry and the need for compliance with regulatory requirements - Work independently and collectively, taking responsibility for plans, decisions and outcomes relating to biosecurity and infection

Skill	Description
	control
Interact with others	• Select and use appropriate written and verbal communication practices to convey information to staff and stakeholders
Get the work done	• Plan, sequence and prioritise multiple tasks to achieve outcomes • Use routine business technologies and systems to access, prepare and communicate information

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMINF502 Manage equine biosecurity and infection control	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 ACMINF502 Manage equine biosecurity and infection control

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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 an equine biosecurity risk assessment for one property or work site
- documented one equine biosecurity and infection control plan including supporting documentation, covering:
 - movement of equines into, within and out of the work site, other properties and/or geographical areas
 - movement of vehicles, equipment, feed, and bedding
 - movement of people visiting or working at the work site
 - feral and domestic animals and pests
 - design and construction features of the work site
 - waste management practices
 - water supply and storage
 - emergency animal disease (EAD) action plan
- reviewed at least four different equine endemic disease outbreaks and documented a response to minimise the impacts of each outbreak
- implemented, monitored and reviewed the plan over a period of at least six months.

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:

- potential disease or contaminant risks to an equine work site, including:
 - movement of equines between work sites and geographical areas, including international travel
 - movement of vehicles, equipment, feed, and bedding
 - movement of people visiting or working at the work site

- feral and domestic animals and pests
- design and construction features of the work site
- waste management practices
- disposal of dead or aborted animals and biological materials
- water supply and storage
- infectious and zoonotic equine diseases, significant to biosecurity and public health safety, including those caused by:
 - bacteria, including equine chlamydiosis (psittacosis), strangles, listeriosis, brucellosis, salmonellosis, tetanus and rhodococcus equi
 - fungi, including ringworm
 - parasites
 - viruses, including Hendra virus, equine herpes virus, equine influenza, Q fever kunjin virus, Ross River virus, equine viral arteritis, and equine infectious anaemia
 - pests, including processionary caterpillars (itchy grubs), mosquitos, bats, rodents
 - significance to public safety of flying foxes and Hendra virus
- routes for disease and pathogen transmission, including:
 - transfer of equines from work site to another and mixing equines
 - dead animal disposal
 - people as biological sentinels
 - vehicles and equipment
 - air transmission
 - feed and water contamination
 - pests and weeds
 - vector transmission, including flying foxes (Hendra virus)
- risk assessment and management techniques for:
 - preventing controllable risks
 - dealing with risks beyond control
 - responding and recovering from an incident or crisis
- features of a biosecurity and infection control plan, including:
 - goals and objectives
 - roles and responsibilities of staff
 - staff vaccination/immunisation and training records
 - contact details for relevant veterinarians, other people and organisations
 - recording forms including visitor register, husbandry records, register of equine movements
 - EAD action plan
 - Australian Veterinary Emergency Plan (AUSVETPLAN) for specific equine diseases
- overview of infectious diseases in equines, including:
 - clinical signs and typical histories
 - incubation period and infectious period

- common treatment protocols
- methods to prevent and control common diseases, including:
 - vaccinating equines
 - worming equines and other animals
 - controlling rodents
 - protecting equine feed and water from flying foxes and other pests
 - isolating and treating sick animals
 - reducing the risk of exposure to mosquitos
 - taking measures to manage movement in and out of potential infection areas
 - early veterinary intervention
- treatments for equine infectious diseases, including:
 - state/territory restrictions on the administration of particular drugs
 - use of antibiotics and microbial resistance
 - ensuring only veterinarian prescribed antibiotics are administered to limit microbial resistance
- common zoonotic diseases that can be spread to humans working with equines
- work activities, job roles and geographic areas most 'at risk' of equine disease infection
- notifiable conditions and diseases, including:
 - seeking advice from a veterinarian
 - 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 or worksite or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - access to current research information on biosecurity and infection control relevant to equine work sites
 - templates or guidelines for biosecurity and infection control plans.

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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