



Australian Government

ACMPHR502 Manage horse health using selected therapies

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release	Comments
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 to assess the merits of available therapies, review the likely outcomes and validity of therapeutic options and select credible industry professionals to perform the therapies.

The unit applies to individuals, with intermediate horse handling skills, who have responsibility for the health and wellbeing of performance horses working both independently and in conjunction with others. They have detailed knowledge of equine biology, anatomy and physiology, and of a wide range of veterinary, nutraceuticals, pharmacological, complementary and alternative therapies.

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

Work 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.

NOTE: The terms ‘occupational health and safety’ (OHS) and ‘work health and safety’ (WHS) generally have the same meaning in the workplace. In jurisdictions where the national model WHS legislation has not been implemented, RTOs must contextualise the unit of competency by referring to current OHS legislative requirements.

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Unit Sector

Performance Horse (PHR)

Elements and Performance Criteria

Elements	Performance Criteria
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<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
1. Determine therapies suitable for use in performance horse management	1.1 Seek professional advice for the interpretation of symptoms 1.2 Research appropriate therapies to treat the diagnosed condition on the basis of evidence, mode of action and credibility 1.3 Collaborate with veterinarians and other allied health professionals to determine appropriate therapies, timelines and outcomes 1.4 Select appropriate therapy according to veterinary or allied health professional advice
2. Select equine therapists	2.1 Assess therapist qualifications for rigour, credibility and compliance with relevant legislation 2.2 Seek and evaluate therapist testimonials from a wide range of sources 2.3 Select appropriate therapist based on assessment of qualifications and testimonials
3. Implement chosen therapy	3.1 Monitor the progress of the horse during treatment in collaboration with therapist 3.2 Ensure safe work practices are followed during treatment 3.3 Record the results of the therapy and assess against expected outcomes 3.4 Evaluate the impact of the selected therapy in collaboration with the therapist or veterinarian 3.5 Adjust the therapeutic strategy based on horse response and therapist or veterinarian advice

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	Review a variety of texts, including complex or medical information from a variety of sources, to evaluate and determine therapies to meet specific horse needs
Navigate the world of	Take responsibility for complying with regulatory requirements, including work health and safety and animal welfare, within own

Skill	Description
work	- role and area of work - Follow safe, ethical and humane horse handling industry practices
Interact with others	Work collaboratively and communicate effectively with clients and specialist professionals regarding managing horse health using selected therapies
Get the work done	- Plan and sequence strategies for horse therapy programs; monitoring progress, and adjusting treatments to achieve outcomes - Analyse problems and risks, devise solutions and reflect on approaches taken

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMPHR502 Manage horse health using selected therapies	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 ACMPHR502 Manage horse health using selected therapies

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Performance Evidence

An individual demonstrating competency in this unit must satisfy all of the elements and performance criteria of this unit.

There must be evidence that the individual has managed horse health using selected therapies for at least two individual horses, including:

- handling horses safely
- undertaking health checks, including vital signs
- detecting the signs of common horse injuries, ailments and health problems
- identifying the impact of injury and health problems on performance and horse welfare
- researching a wide range of relevant treatments and therapies
- critically evaluating information about therapies and claims of efficacy
- conducting a risk assessment relating to implementing specific therapies
- collaborating with veterinarians and allied health professionals
- following and implementing veterinary and allied health professional treatment plans
- administering treatments and therapies
- using equipment according to instructions
- monitoring horse responses to treatment and adjusting treatments
- complying with regulatory requirements and workplace and industry procedures and practices relevant to role and use of therapies to manage horse health, including:
 - animal welfare and prevention of cruelty to animals
 - work health and safety (WHS)
 - biosecurity
 - environment and sustainability.

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 features of equine biology, anatomy and physiology

- signs, aetiology, pathogenesis, progression and healing processes of common equine injuries, ailments and diseases
- range of therapies available to treat identified equine diseases, ailments and injuries
- mode of action, benefits, limits, scientific evidence and physiological plausibility of therapies, including veterinary, nutraceutical, pharmacological, natural and complementary therapies
- legislative regulations covering veterinary and allied health professional accreditation qualifications and licencing
- industry bodies, professional development, compliance and accreditation processes
- key requirements of work health and safety regulations and guidelines relating to:
 - risk assessment, control and review
 - due diligence for staff and other personnel
 - safe horse handling techniques
 - personal protective equipment (PPE), including use, storage, maintenance and replacement schedules
- key requirements of biosecurity standards, relevant to horse disease and hygiene standards
- key requirements of animal welfare standards, policies and procedures relevant to the safe, humane and ethical care and housing of horses
- key requirements of environmental and sustainability standards, policies and procedures relevant to equine facilities and properties.

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:
 - various horses requiring therapy treatment assessed as suitable for the experience and skill of the individual
 - tack, materials and equipment for providing therapeutic treatment for horses, including personal protective equipment (PPE) for handler
 - workplace recording or reporting forms
- specifications:
 - health program for individual, horses experiencing an injury or ill health.

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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