



Australian Government

Assessment Requirements for ACMVET406 Nurse animals

Release: 2

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 2	This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 5.0.
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:

- provided nursing care for a minimum of two hospitalised animals, covering at least two species, including:
 - observing patients and maintaining accurate records for clinical signs, pain and behavioural changes
 - informing clients of patient's progress
 - handling animals appropriately and providing psychological care techniques to reduce stress and discomfort
- implemented prescribed routines, including:
 - bandage and wound care
 - providing exercise and physical therapy
 - providing enrichment
 - supporting toileting
 - providing nutritional support
 - calculating drug and intravenous (IV) fluid dosages
 - managing indwelling apparatus, including catheters, intravenous catheters or feeding tubes
- provided animal first aid as required for at least two of the following:
 - haemorrhage
 - fractures or dislocations
 - burns
 - shock
 - proptosis
 - head trauma

- envenomation
- poisoning
- lacerations
- respiratory distress/dyspnea
- performed the activities outlined in the performance criteria of this unit during a period of at least 240 hours of work in a veterinary practice.

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:

- animal behaviour characteristics and traits
- animal pain management procedures and techniques
- techniques to measure animal vital signs, including:
 - blood pressure
 - pulse rate and quality
 - respiratory rate and effort
 - rectal temperature
 - pulse oximetry and blood gases
 - electrocardiograph (ECG)
 - capillary refill time
 - palpebral reflex
 - heart rate and rhythm
 - mucous membrane colour
 - pedal withdrawal reflex
 - end tidal carbon dioxide
- signs of pain, including:
 - biting, kicking and scratching
 - increased blood pressure
 - elevated temperature
 - increased heart rate
 - increased respiration
 - increased vocalisation
 - pale mucous membranes
 - straining or arching of the back
 - trembling and changes in normal physiology
 - protecting/guarding effected area
 - hiding
 - inappetence
- objective pain scoring systems

- barrier nursing principles
- animal anatomy and physiology, applied pharmacology and a range of analgesics related to nursing animals
- work health and safety and animal welfare legislative regulations and requirements
- routine animal health advice
- veterinary medications and chemicals, the relevant poisons schedule and the legislative requirements relevant to their use.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of the skills in this unit of competency must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - in the workplace or an environment that accurately reflects a veterinary practice
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - a range of real, live animals
 - equipment, instruments and resources typically available for nursing animals
- specifications:
 - organisational policies and procedures, current legislation, regulations and relevant codes of practice
- relationships (internal and/or external):
 - interactions with real clients
 - interactions with a registered veterinarian or minimum of Certificate IV qualified veterinary nurse.

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>