



Australian Government

Assessment Requirements for ACMVET408 Provide nutritional advice and support for 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 specific nutritional advice for a minimum of two animals from different species, with different medical conditions, including two of the following:
 - renal disease
 - liver disease
 - pancreatitis
 - cardiac disease
 - diabetes
 - joint disease
 - obesity
 - urinary tract disease
- fed a minimum of one animal using an assisted feeding method, including one of the following:
 - syringe feeding
 - crop feeding
 - tube feeding
 - bottle feeding
- 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 classifications that influence dietary needs and eating behaviour
- practice policies and procedures related to providing advice
- components of animal digestive systems and feeding behaviours of species serviced by the practice
- behavioural features related to feeding styles and unsuitable responses to diets
- feedstuffs available and approved in Australia for animals, their availability, cost, shelf life, method of storage, preparation and presentation to animals
- medical and surgical conditions that require specific diets or assisted feeding
- nutrition-related diseases
- protein, carbohydrate, vitamin and mineral supplement and fibre needs for a range of animal groups
- nutritional requirements and considerations of different species serviced by the practice, including:
 - environmental interactions, including housing and exercise options
 - gestation and lactation
 - life stage (growth, geriatrics, young animal feeding)
 - obesity control
 - surgical or disease rehabilitation
 - working and performance
- sources of nutrients for particular animal classes and groups
- information on:
 - additives
 - maintenance of energy requirements
 - adverse reactions
 - feeding regimes
 - feeding levels
 - lactation and gestation
 - supplements and commercial foods
 - treats
- information on prescribed diets:
 - diets necessary with disease
 - obesity and weight reduction diets
 - life stage diets (young, active or old)
- feeding regimes for conditions, including:
 - anorexia
 - cardiovascular disease
 - diabetes mellitus

- gastrointestinal tract disorders
- hospital feeding
- intensive care
- malnutrition
- neoplasia
- obesity
- pancreatitis
- urinary system disease
- urolithiasis
- the potential causes of poor response to diets and tests used to investigate dietary problems
- the value of home-prepared rations versus commercially-prepared diets
- feeding methods, including:
 - hand feeding
 - syringe feeding
 - crop feeding
 - total parenteral nutrition (TPN)
 - gastrostomy tube
 - Percutaneous Endoscopic Gastronomy (PEG) tube
- procedures maintaining feeding tubes
- appropriate care for a patient being tube fed
- state or territory legislation and regulations relating to work health and safety and animal welfare
- Veterinary Surgeons' Act requirements.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - in the workplace or an environment that accurately reflects a veterinary practice or hospital
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - a range of real, live animals
 - equipment and resources typically available in a veterinary practice
- specifications:
 - access to organisational policies and procedures, current legislation, regulations and relevant codes of practice
- relationships (internal and/or external):
 - 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>