



Australian Government

ACMVET409 Provide specific animal care advice

Release: 1

ACMVET409 Provide specific animal care advice

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 provide advice to clients (animal owners) about animal health, behaviour, disease and reproduction.

The unit applies to veterinary nurses who work independently, under the supervision of a registered veterinarian in a veterinary practice. Veterinary nurses who provide animal care advice need to hold and apply specialised knowledge of animal anatomy and physiology, animal health, disease and reproduction, and products available for care.

Legislative and regulatory requirements apply to veterinary nurses but vary according to state/territory jurisdictions. Users must check with the relevant regulatory authority before delivery.

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

Veterinary Nursing (VET)

Elements and Performance Criteria

Element	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
1. Provide specific animal health advice	1.1 Evaluate the patient and client needs as the basis for provision of advice

Element	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	1.2 Provide primary care advice according to WHS and animal welfare requirements 1.3 Provide advice on animal health, disease and reproduction
2. Offer animal care product advice	2.1 Prepare and document information on animal care products available in the practice 2.2 Establish client product requirements through discussion and evaluation 2.3 Provide specific product advice to clients
3. Provide animal behaviour advice	3.1 Explain and discuss types of normal and abnormal behaviour with the owner 3.2 Provide basic advice on techniques to modify problem behaviours 3.3 Record details of advice and strategies in the patient's history

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	Interpret product labels
Oral communication	Discuss, question and clarify information with animal owner
Get the work done	Address irregularities and contingencies in the context of the work role

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMVET409 Provide	ACMVET409A	Updated to meet	No equivalent unit

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
specific animal care advice	Provide specific animal care advice	Standards for Training Packages Nutritional aspects removed and included in new unit ACMVET408 Provide nutritional advice and support for animals Assessment requirements revised Work placement requirement included	

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 ACMVET409 Provide specific animal care advice

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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:

- provided specific animal care advice for at least two different species, and including advice on:
 - healthcare
 - reproduction
 - behaviour
- 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:

- practice policies and procedures related to providing advice
- animal husbandry requirements for the prevention and control of disease and illness
- types and sources of information available for treatments, medications and other animal services, including:
 - company representatives and advice service
 - industry associations
 - library resources
 - Medical Information Management System (MIMS) and other veterinary medication reference sources
 - product brochures and safety data sheets (SDS)
 - supervisor and other workplace staff
 - validated internet sites
- animal health advice

- animal husbandry
- breeding issues:
 - mating
 - desexing
 - care of newborn and orphan animals
 - oestrus cycle
 - whelping
- control of external and internal parasites
- training and socialisation:
 - vaccination schedules, including heartworm preventative systems
- common vaccinations
- factors influencing animal behaviour
- animal behaviour issues, including:
 - aggression
 - anxiety
 - barking
 - destructive behaviour
 - digging holes
 - feather picking (birds)
 - phobias
 - vocalisation
 - wind sucking
- behaviour modification techniques and equipment
- pet insurance and mortality policies
- work health and safety and animal welfare legislative regulations and requirements
- relevant 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
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - a range of real, live animals with varying needs
 - 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 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

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