



Australian Government

ACMVET416 Assist with the preparation of veterinary drugs and poisons

Release: 1

ACMVET416 Assist with the preparation of veterinary drugs and poisons

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 prepare and assist with the preparation of veterinary drugs and poisons in a veterinary practice.

The unit applies to veterinary nurses who work under the supervision of a registered veterinarian in a veterinary practice. Veterinary nurses who assist with the preparation of veterinary drugs and poisons for animals need to hold and apply specialised knowledge of animal pharmaceuticals, and the relevant legislation and regulations that apply to working with veterinary drugs and poisons.

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. Profile physiological	1.1 Identify animal health, nutritional needs and medication, under

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features of nominated animal relevant to health and application of treatments	supervision 1.2 Determine veterinary drugs and poisons known to produce allergic or toxic reactions in nominated animal 1.3 Identify methods of administration for treatments and medications
2. Prepare veterinary drugs and poisons under supervision of a veterinary surgeon	2.1 Identify and comply with relevant legislation for preparing veterinary medicines 2.2 Identify drug schedules and drug classes 2.3 Identify classes and effects of veterinary medicines 2.4 Follow veterinarian's instructions for preparation of medicine 2.5 Prepare packaging for pharmaceutical following instructions 2.6 Update animal clinical record as directed 2.7 Update practice record of (non S8) drugs dispensed, for sign off by veterinarian 2.8 Secure (non S8) drug store according to legislation
3. Provide support for veterinary drugs and poisons under supervision	3.1 Assist with providing veterinary pharmaceuticals to animal owner 3.2 Explain dosage requirements to client 3.3 Explain possible commonly listed side effects of veterinary drugs and poisons 3.4 Explain how to administer products 3.5 Explain follow-up treatment plan recommended by veterinarian

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	Listen to and clarify veterinarian's instructions
Numeracy	- Calculate required dosages of drugs - Carry out cash or credit card sale of product

Skill	Description
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
ACMVET416 Assist with the preparation of veterinary drugs and poisons	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 ACMVET416 Assist with the preparation of veterinary drugs and poisons

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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 assisted with the preparation of veterinary drugs and poisons, including:

- undertaking the preparation of pharmaceuticals for a minimum of three animals of different species, including:
 - at least two formulations, including parenteral and topical or oral
- providing information to a client, on at least one occasion, about the veterinary drug or poison and follow-up treatments, under supervision
- 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:

- legal and ethical requirements (national, state/territory) for pharmacy work, and how these are applied in organisations
- guidelines, including the Australian Veterinary Association Guidelines for Prescribing, Authorising and Dispensing Veterinary Medicines (including the PAD checklist)
- record keeping, disposal, storage, administration and sales of veterinary drugs and poisons
- prescribing and dispensing veterinary drugs and poisons (by veterinarian only)
- legislation relevant to veterinarians and veterinary nurses
- specific legislation, including:
 - relevant state or territory Veterinary Surgeons' Act
 - *Therapeutic Goods Act 1989*
 - Poisons Standard, February 2017
 - Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Medicines and Poisons (SUSMP) and relevant state and territory legislation and regulations

- *Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992*
- *Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Act 1994*
- *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* in conjunction with Guidelines on use of cytotoxic drugs and related waste (Qld)
- codes of conduct, including the Australian Veterinary Association Code of Professional Conduct
- drugs schedules and categories of drugs, actions and side effects
- prescriptions and who can write prescriptions
- stock control of medications
- legal requirements and principles of veterinary drugs and poisons product labelling (product name, batch numbering and expiry date)
- specific labelling requirements
- key information for inclusion, including:
 - date on which the container was filled
 - constraints
 - directions for use of each medicine
 - name, strength, form and quantity of all medicines supplied in the container
 - veterinarian details
 - expiry date
- withholding periods for commonly medications commonly prescribed in practices
- compounded medications
- infection control principles and their relevance to packaging, administering and storing veterinary drugs and poisons
- handling and administration of cytotoxic drugs under veterinary supervision
- packaging principles and processes, including:
 - calculations, weights and measures
 - properties of container types and selection for use
 - various pack sizes and selection for use
 - types of packaging materials.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - a workplace or an environment that accurately reflects a veterinary practice
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - equipment and resources typically available in a veterinary practice for the preparation of pharmaceuticals
 - veterinary drugs and poisons, appropriately stored
- specifications:
 - organisational policies and procedures, current legislation, regulations, drug schedules, relevant guidelines and 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.

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