



Australian Government

ACMVET509 Manage veterinary nursing procedures

Release: 1

ACMVET509 Manage veterinary nursing procedures

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 manage nursing procedures in order to support veterinarians and achieve the best possible patient outcomes. Nursing procedures range from veterinary support in consultations and surgery to the daily care of hospitalised patients. Nursing support includes the preparation of equipment, materials, medications and the patient, monitoring anaesthesia, providing assistance in theatre, administering drugs, providing wound care, drain maintenance, critical care and infection control.

This unit applies to veterinary nurses with extensive vocational expertise who are responsible for providing advanced nursing skills and support for registered veterinarians in general practice. It is assumed that such nurses will have a leadership role in their practice and be involved in the development, implementation and review of practice policies and procedures.

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
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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. Supervise nursing support for veterinary procedures	1.1 Coordinate available nursing staff to support veterinary activities 1.2 Coordinate preparation of materials and equipment in anticipation of need 1.3 Supervise nursing staff assistance in a range of medical and surgical nursing procedures 1.4 Coordinate nursing staff to monitor and communicate anaesthetic depth and patient vital signs during general anaesthesia under veterinary supervision 1.5 Coordinate nursing staff requirements for post-operative procedures 1.6 Organise appropriate rostering of nursing staff
2. Organise, monitor and document referral requests, procedures and follow-up processes	2.1 Notify referral veterinarian or other health care professional and service regarding reason for referral according to practice procedures and referring veterinarian's instructions 2.2 Arrange transfer of copies of client records and referral information while maintaining client confidentiality 2.3 Advise clients of referral procedures and provide copies of relevant documentation 2.4 Document referrals in case notes using industry standard terminology 2.5 Document referral veterinarian patient case report outcomes and required after care in case notes using industry standard terminology
3. Manage hospitalised patients	3.1 Implement specific veterinarian instructions for the care of hospitalised patients 3.2 Coordinate nursing care of hospitalised patients according to WHS, infection control and animal welfare requirements 3.3 Develop and implement infection control policies and procedures to comply with infection control requirements 3.4 Conduct hospital rounds with attending veterinarian ensuring effective nurse handovers
4. Monitor the maintenance of accurate records	4.1 Develop and implement a range of practice policies and procedures to facilitate nursing activities 4.2 Confirm staff follow policies and procedures to maintain appropriate documentation of hospitalised patients 4.3 Review policies and procedures to improve patient outcomes and customer service

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
Numeracy	• Monitor patient vital signs and calculate drug doses and fluid rates
Get the work done	• Apply problem-solving skills to use available resources and anticipate veterinarians' requirements • Consistently evaluate and monitor own performance • 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
ACMVET509 Manage veterinary nursing procedures	ACMVET509A Manage veterinary nursing procedures	Updated to meet Standards for Training Packages Minor changes to clarify content Assessment requirements revised Work placement requirement included	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 ACMVET509 Manage veterinary nursing procedures

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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 managed a minimum of three veterinary nursing procedures, including for each procedure:

- coordinated and rostered staff
- coordinated preparation of equipment
- coordinated admissions and discharges
- managed nursing care of hospitalised patients on at least three occasions, including (on each occasion):
 - completed hospital rounds with veterinarian
 - ensured nurse handovers were effective
 - rostered nursing staff
 - ensured treatment plans were followed and abnormalities reported to the attending veterinarian
- developed and implemented a minimum of one infection control procedure
- monitored the maintenance of records, including policies and procedures relevant to veterinary nursing care
- 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 supervising the work of others.

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:

- principles of animal welfare and ethics
- processes used to develop policies and procedures
- how to roster staff against practice requirements
- processes to manage referrals

- effective communication principles and strategies
- records management
- principles of supervision and leadership in managing veterinary nursing care
- sources of information related to professional development opportunities
- quarantine of patients and infection control measures in an isolation facility
- practice policies and procedures related to veterinary nursing procedures
- relevant state or territory legislation and regulations relating to the practice of veterinary science, codes of practice, workplace health and safety, animal welfare and biosecurity
- relevant state or territory legislation covering the use of therapeutic and controlled substances.

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 hospital
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - hospitalised animals
 - equipment, instruments and resources typically available in a veterinary hospital
- specifications:
 - access to organisational policies and procedures, current legislation, regulations and relevant codes of practice
- relationships (internal and/or external):
 - interactions with a team of veterinary nurses
 - interactions with a registered veterinarian.

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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