

**Modification history**

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 3.0.

<b>ACMATE5X2</b>	<b>Monitor and contribute to ethical treatment of animals in research facilities</b>
<b>Application</b>	<p>This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to assist with the monitoring of work undertaken in animal research facilities to ensure compliance with the standards required by the organisation's Animal Ethics Committee (AEC), relevant legislation and the Australian Code for the Care and Use of Animals for Scientific Purposes.</p> <p>The unit applies to individuals who work as animal technicians and have a specific role in monitoring research ethics and animal welfare.</p> <p>No occupational licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.</p>
<b>Prerequisite Unit</b>	Nil
<b>Unit Sector</b>	Animal Technology (ATE)

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
1. Monitor and oversee the welfare of animals in day to day operations	1.1 Observe and record information relating to the health and welfare of animals, including expected and unexpected adverse events, in area of responsibility 1.2 Analyse data and monitor animal records related to the welfare of research animals in area of responsibility 1.3 Report on overall animal welfare according to organisational and AEC procedures
2. Convey information about new research projects to team members	2.1 Identify key information relating to animal care, welfare and ethics in new research projects 2.2 Brief relevant team members on new approved research projects including the animal holding and experimental space requirements and team roles 2.3 Explain the project's harm-benefit assessment and potential risks to animals in new research projects 2.4 Inform team members of animal welfare monitoring and recording requirements in addition to day to day care and husbandry activities
3. Take action on animal welfare issues	3.1 Report non-compliance, research misconduct or concerns relating to animal welfare according to organisational and AEC procedures 3.2 Respond to animals in pain or suffering according to job role responsibilities and organisational procedures 3.3 Facilitate formal and informal mental wellbeing sessions for team members to reduce compassion fatigue and distress associated with animal welfare following organisational guidelines 3.4 Contribute feedback on ethics and animal welfare to improve processes according to organisational and AEC procedures

<b>Foundation Skills</b>	
<i>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.</i>	
<b>Skill</b>	<b>Description</b>
Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify and analyse text with complex requirements and medical terminology in research project documentation</li> </ul>
Interact with others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work as an effective member of a team as well as independently</li> </ul>
Navigate the world of work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain an understanding of organisational procedures so they are followed according to relevant legislation and industry standards</li> </ul>
Get the work done	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plan, organise and prioritise tasks to achieve work outcomes</li> <li>Make decisions following formal problem solving processes to take action to resolve animal welfare issues</li> </ul>

<b>Unit Mapping Information</b>			
<b>Code and title current version</b>	<b>Code and title previous version</b>	<b>Comments</b>	<b>Equivalence status</b>
ACMATE5X2 Monitor and contribute to ethical treatment of animals in research facilities	Not applicable	New unit	No equivalent unit

<b>Links</b>	Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: <a href="https://vetnet.education.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=b75f4b23-54c9-4cc9-a5db-d3502d154103">https://vetnet.education.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=b75f4b23-54c9-4cc9-a5db-d3502d154103</a>
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<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Assessment requirements for ACMATE5X2 Monitor and contribute to ethical treatment of animals in research facilities</b>
<b>Performance Evidence</b>	
<p>An individual demonstrating competency must satisfy all of the elements and performance criteria in this unit.</p> <p>There must be evidence that the individual has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provided a report on overall animal welfare in area of responsibility according to organisational and Animal Ethics Committee (AEC) procedures and formats on at least two occasions</li> <li>• briefed team members on one new animal research project and explained roles</li> <li>• contributed feedback to improve animal welfare related to a research project or day to day operation within the facility on at least one occasion</li> <li>• facilitated at least one proactive session that assists team members with compassion fatigue awareness.</li> </ul>	
<b>Knowledge Evidence</b>	
<p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• role of the AEC in approving and monitoring research proposals</li> <li>• organisation and AEC operating procedures for monitoring animal welfare</li> <li>• role of animal technicians in monitoring animal welfare and ethical animal research practices</li> <li>• protocols, legal and ethical considerations in documenting observations, measurements, treatments and decisions relating to animal research</li> <li>• relevant animal technology codes, including the Australian Code for the Care and Use of Animals for Scientific Purposes (or its successor)</li> <li>• relevant state or territory legislation and regulations relating to health and safety, animal welfare and research</li> <li>• animal holding and experimental space requirements for the intended purpose, including temperature, alarms, humidity, physical space, separation of species/procedures</li> <li>• overview of anaesthetic or analgesic regimen to address potential animal pain or distress in research project</li> <li>• expected adverse effects and unexpected adverse events related to animal research</li> <li>• signs of compassion fatigue in team members and types of support mechanisms available</li> <li>• organisation and AEC reporting procedures and formats</li> <li>• potential areas of improvement in ethical animal research, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• animal welfare, care and husbandry</li> <li>• environmental enrichment</li> <li>• health and safety</li> <li>• hygiene/cleanliness</li> <li>• procedural efficiencies.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<b>Assessment Conditions</b>	
<p>Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• physical conditions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• skills must be demonstrated in a workplace setting or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions</li> </ul> </li> <li>• resources: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• research animals</li> </ul> </li> <li>• specifications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• organisation and AEC procedures</li> <li>• Australian Code for the Care and Use of Animals for Scientific Purposes.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Assessors of this unit must satisfy the requirements for assessors in applicable vocational education and training legislation, frameworks and/or standards.</p>	

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