

**Modification history**

Release	Comments
Release 2	This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 4.0.
Release 1	This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 1.0.

ACMGAS301	Maintain and monitor animal health and wellbeing
<b>Application</b>	<p>This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to follow animal health management practices to monitor animal health via daily observations of behaviour and condition. The animals may include a range of species housed long-term or cared for short-term in a workplace.</p> <p>This unit applies to individuals undertaking animal care activities in small to large scale animal facilities where it may be necessary to care for a range of animal species and to monitor the wellbeing of healthy, ill or injured animals. They work under broad direction, typically in a team environment, and are required to take responsibility for their own work including, carrying out assigned tasks, organising processes, and working to schedules.</p> <p>All work must be carried out to comply with workplace procedures according to state/territory health and safety and animal welfare regulations, legislation and standards that apply to the workplace.</p> <p>No licensing, legislative or certification requirements are known to apply to this unit at the time of publication.</p>
<b>Prerequisite Unit</b>	Nil
<b>Unit Sector</b>	General Animal Studies (GAS)

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. Follow animal health management practices	1.1 Maintain personal health and hygiene standards 1.2 Identify animal diseases and their impact on animals and humans 1.3 Identify broad categories of parasitic infestations 1.4 Prepare and maintain quarantine areas in accordance with quarantine protocols 1.5 Identify and isolate animals requiring quarantine 1.6 Maintain quarantine records 1.7 Use and maintain personal protective equipment
2. Monitor and maintain the physical wellbeing of animals	2.1 Examine the anatomy and physiology of a range of animals to identify differences in physical appearance and body structure 2.2 Monitor and test indicators of animal health regularly, and follow quarantine requirements involving movement of animals within or between facilities 2.3 Assess the physical environment of animals for evidence of problems that may affect the physical wellbeing and welfare of animals 2.4 Maintain records of animal observations, activity monitoring, and health information
3. Identify and report signs of ill health or injury in animals	3.1 Recognise signs of illness or injury and report to supervisor 3.2 Recognise abnormal animal behaviour and conditions and report to supervisor 3.3 Collect samples and record as directed 3.4 Separate sick or injured animals from other animals and care for as advised by supervisor or veterinarian 3.5 Handle animals that are ill or injured safely and appropriately

ACMGAS301 Maintain and monitor animal health and wellbeing

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
4. Administer and record animal treatments	4.1 Administer authorised animal treatments under supervision, and record dosages 4.2 Monitor, administer and record routine preventative health treatments regularly 4.3 Store treatments appropriately according to workplace procedures 4.4 Complete records relating to the nature of treatment, and animal health status before and after treatment

Commented [SH1]: Stakeholder advice sought.  
Should this be "Store treatments and medication?"

Foundation Skills	
<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>	
Skill	Description
Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Accurately interpret animal treatment plans</li> </ul>
Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use industry terminology when completing records</li> </ul>
Numeracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Calculate volume, weight, area, ratio, time and application rates</li> <li>Interpret numerical information provided with animal treatment products and equipment</li> </ul>

Unit Mapping Information			
Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMGAS301 Maintain and monitor animal health and wellbeing	ACMGAS301 Maintain and monitor animal health and wellbeing	Minor changes for clarity and consistency in application section and performance criteria	Equivalent unit

<b>Links</b>	Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: <a href="https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=b75f4b23-54c9-4cc9-a5db-d3502d154103">https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=b75f4b23-54c9-4cc9-a5db-d3502d154103</a>
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TITLE	Assessment requirements for ACMGAS301 Maintain and monitor animal health and wellbeing
<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 maintained and monitored the health and wellbeing of a minimum of three different animals and, on each occasion, the individual must have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• applied work practices for personal safety and personal hygiene standards</li> <li>• monitored and tested indicators of animal health</li> <li>• assessed the physical environment of animals for evidence of problems that may have affected the physical wellbeing and welfare of animals</li> <li>• maintained records of quarantine, observations, monitoring activities and samples</li> <li>• selected, fitted and correctly used personal protective equipment</li> <li>• administered treatments under supervision.</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>• anatomical and physiological structures and functions related to animal health and wellbeing</li> <li>• anatomical and physiological terminology and glossary of terms</li> <li>• broad categories of parasitic infestations</li> <li>• common infectious diseases, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• bacteria</li> <li>• fungi</li> <li>• virus</li> <li>• zoonoses</li> </ul> </li> <li>• common non-infectious diseases, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• allergies</li> <li>• chemical toxicities</li> <li>• genetic</li> <li>• metabolic</li> <li>• neoplastic</li> <li>• nutritional</li> </ul> </li> <li>• indicators of animal health</li> <li>• observing and reporting species-specific unusual behaviour for nominated animal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• aggression or docility (depending on animal)</li> <li>• disinterest in surroundings, other animals, people or usual stimuli</li> <li>• excessive licking, scratching and rubbing</li> <li>• lethargy</li> <li>• nest building</li> <li>• self-mutilation</li> <li>• trembling</li> <li>• vocalising</li> </ul> </li> <li>• observing and reporting species-specific indicators of illness or injury: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• bleeding</li> <li>• changes in drinking or eating patterns</li> <li>• lameness or reluctance to move and vocalising when attempting to move</li> <li>• swelling</li> <li>• unusual amounts, colour or texture of faeces</li> </ul> </li> <li>• indicators of poor response to treatment or management of young, ill, injured or compromised animals</li> <li>• indicators of recovery from illness or injury</li> <li>• quarantine protocols</li> <li>• safe work practices</li> <li>• the methods used to measure, interpret and record animals' weight and other objective measures of animal health</li> <li>• the principles of animal welfare and ethics.</li> </ul>	

### Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
  - a workplace or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
  - live animals specified in the performance evidence
  - equipment and resources typically available in an animal care environment, including personal protective equipment
- specifications:
  - access to organisational policies and procedures, and current, relevant legislation and codes of practice
- relationships:
  - supervisor.

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>

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