

Modification history

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 5.0.

ACMEQU4X5	Maintain and monitor horse health and welfare
Application	<p>This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to implement, monitor and review horse health care, including implementing routine health care plans, treating injury and disease and responding to emergency health situations.</p> <p>The unit applies to individuals who provide practical health care for horses. They work autonomously and apply specialist knowledge and skills to provide and communicate solutions for predictable and unpredictable problems.</p> <p>Commonwealth and state/territory health and safety, and animal welfare legislation, regulations and codes of practice relevant to interacting with horses apply to workers in this industry. Requirements vary between industry sectors and jurisdictions.</p> <p>No licensing or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.</p>
Prerequisite Unit	Nil
Unit Sector	Equine (EQU)

Commented [SH1]: Revisions made to reduce overlap with ACMPH405 Implement and monitor equine health and welfare strategies (Update to AQF5?)
 1. Assess equine anatomy and physiology
 2. Establish a health strategy for horses
 3. Implement a treatment program
 4. Manage the implementation of health plans recommended by equine health professionals
 5. Evaluate the health and treatment programs and strategy

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. Relate elements of the horse diet to physiological function	1.1 Classify major nutrient elements according to needs of the horse 1.2 Describe components of the digestive system and the nutrient absorption and metabolism processes 1.3 Relate features of a well-balanced diet to horse age, health condition and workload 1.4 Evaluate impact of an unbalanced or deficient diet on horse health
1. Implement health care programs for horses of all ages	1.1 Implement procedures and schedule for horse health care programs covering diet, dental, vaccination, parasite control, and hoof maintenance 1.2 Document health care and management for individual horses 1.3 Communicate health and emergency care procedures to relevant team members 1.4 Maintain horse premises to optimise health care and according to animal welfare, legislative and licensing requirements 1.5 Compile recorded data and update horse health care records
2. Monitor impact of diet on horse health	2.1 Supervise the implementation of feed and supplements to maintain health according to horse requirements and diet plan 2.2 Maintain and monitor records of horse diets and feeding regimes 2.3 Identify and respond to signs of digestive health issues 2.4 Evaluate impact of an unbalanced or deficient diet on horse health and take action to remedy

Commented [SH2]: PCs have been reordered to address workflow

Commented [SH3]: This element seems a bit out of place. The PCs are written more like curriculum and are identical to element 1 in ACMEQU402. Consider alternative Element and PCs below (in blue) linking diet/nutrition to health care OR delete element 2 on diet from this unit

Commented [SH4]: Moved 4.1 from element 4

Commented [SH5]: PC3.5 moved from element 3

Commented [SH6]: Moved 3.1 from element 3

ACMEQU4X5 Maintain and monitor horse health and welfare

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
3. Check and determine horse health	3.1 Correctly fit and use personal protective equipment (PPE) and specialised PPE to meet infection control and biosecurity requirements as required 3.2 Handle and restrain horses using safe, low stress practices 3.3 Assess health status of horses, applying knowledge of signs of healthy and distressed, sick or injured horses 3.6 Review characteristics, signs of healthy and distressed, sick or injured horses 3.4 Identify signs of infectious disease and isolate or quarantine horses according to workplace and biosecurity procedures 3.5 Implement control measures to prevent disease spread under veterinary guidance 3.6 Implement procedures and report notifiable diseases, where required
4. Treat injury and illness	4.1 Discuss prognosis for common illnesses and injuries with key personnel and determine need for professional advice or veterinary assistance 3.4 Make treatment priority decisions based on animal welfare needs and the potential ongoing impact of ailments or disease 4.2 Assess and control risks prior to administering medication or treatments 4.3 Confirm methods of administering medication, recording treatment and monitoring injectable medication 4.4 Administer medication or treatments according to veterinarian instructions, workplace procedures and legislative requirements 4.5 Apply pharmaceutical and therapeutic treatments as instructed 4.6 Correctly handle and store medications and treatments according to legislation and workplace safety procedures 4.7 Dispose of surplus medications and treatments safely according to workplace procedures
5. Monitor health care program	5.1 Monitor horses during and after treatment and report indicators of further health problems 5.2 Document health care program and treatments and maintain records 5.3 Review program implementation and outcomes

Commented [SH2]: PCs have been reordered to address workflow

Commented [SH7]: Repetitive?

Commented [SH8]: Prognosis - maybe use signs or indicators instead?

Commented [SH9]: 3.4 PC form ACMEQU401

Commented [SH10]: Are there issues about the term 'medication' 4.3 injectable medication?

Commented [SH11]: Use term 'preventative' rather than pharmaceutical?

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"> Identify and interpret veterinary or medical textual information from a range of sources
Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Record, compile and report information and data accurately using appropriate industry and veterinary terminology
Oral communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in spoken interactions using active listening and questioning to convey information and confirm understanding
Numeracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Perform basic calculations and measurements of volume, weight and ratios relevant to health care

Unit Mapping Information			
Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMEQU4X5 Maintain and monitor horse health and welfare	ACMEQU405 Maintain and monitor horse health and welfare	Redesigned unit merging content from ACMEQU405 <i>Maintain and monitor horse health and welfare</i> and	Not equivalent

ACMEQU4X5 Maintain and monitor horse health and welfare

		<i>ACMEQU401 Relate equine anatomical and physiological features to equine health</i>	
ACMEQU4X5 Maintain and monitor horse health and welfare	ACMEQU401 Relate equine anatomical and physiological features to equine health	Redesigned unit merging content from <i>ACMEQU405 Maintain and monitor horse health and welfare</i> and <i>ACMEQU401 Relate equine anatomical and physiological features to equine health</i>	Not equivalent

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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TITLE	Assessment requirements for ACMEQU4X5 Maintain and monitor horse health and welfare
Performance Evidence	
<p>An individual demonstrating competency in this unit must satisfy all of the elements and performance criteria of this unit.</p> <p>There must be evidence that the individual has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scheduled and implemented routine health care plans for at least three horses, with at least two horses at different life stages, covering diet, dental, vaccination, parasite control, and hoof maintenance • maintained and monitored the health and welfare for at least one of the horses above, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • assessed the health status and identified a health issue to be addressed • determined treatment options in consultation with a veterinarian or other allied-health practitioner • administered treatment/s as required and monitored horse progress. • communicated horse health care, emergency and infection control procedures to at least one team member • maintained accurate records for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • routine health care plans for the three horses above • health issues and treatment specific to the individual horse above. 	
Knowledge Evidence	
<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"> • features of health care programs for horses, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • equine dental programs • internal and external parasite control • vaccination • hoof maintenance • balanced diet • general principles and features of a balanced diet for horses, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • common feed stuffs • physiological functions and the absorption and metabolism of nutrients • consequences of an unbalanced or deficient diet to horse function, health and behaviour • requirements and relevance of safe, secure housing to horse health and welfare, including isolation or quarantine arrangements where needed • safe interactions with horses, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • situational risk assessment and control • low stress handling techniques • safe restraining methods • use of personal protective equipment (PPE) relevant to activity • workplace horse health record keeping system and procedure • indicators of normal and abnormal horse body system function • basic structures and functions of equine physiological systems, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • respiratory system • musculoskeletal system • digestive system • nervous system • reproductive system • temperature regulation (?) • common horse illnesses and injuries, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • common indicators, including behavioural signs • those requiring emergency or urgent attention • relevant treatments and medications • main causes and consequences 	

Commented [SH12]: Please check

Commented [SH13]: Diet is highlighted. Do we need to add more about dental, parasite, hoof maintenance etc also? OR delete diet from this section?

Commented [SH14]: Added content from ACMEQU401

Knowledge Evidence

- signs of infectious diseases and procedures for managing, including requirements of notifiable diseases
- importance of hygiene and infection control procedures
- key requirements of relevant legislation and codes of practice, including:
 - biosecurity relating to notifiable disease, quarantine/isolation and transportation/movement of horses
 - workplace health and safety relating to interactions with horses and safe storage and disposal of medications, treatments, chemicals and cleaning agents
 - animal welfare relating to the safe, humane and ethical care of horses.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - an equine workplace or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - various horses as specified in the performance evidence assessed as suitable for the experience and skill of the individual
 - materials and equipment relevant to providing care and treatment for horses in assessment activity, including
 - tack for horses and PPE for handler appropriate for activity
- relationships:
 - team member
 - access to veterinarian or horse allied-health practitioner for instructions.

Training and assessment strategies must show evidence of the use of guidance provided in the *Companion Volume: User Guide: Safety in Equine Training*.

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>