

Modification history

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

| ACMPHR503 | Evaluate performance horse conformation Evaluate horse conformation and physical condition |
|--------------------------|---|
| Application | <p>This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to assess the conformation and physical condition of horses. It covers the implications of conformation on performance and development of corrective measures and action plans for young horses to minimise future problems.</p> <p>The unit applies to individuals who have managerial responsibilities within performance horse training and breeding organisations. They work independently within organisational guidelines, analyse information, solve routine and at times complex problems and convey information and skills to others.</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 occupational licensing or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.</p> |
| Prerequisite Unit | Nil |
| Unit Sector | Performance Horse (PHR) |

| 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. Research key features of horse conformation | 1.1 Analyse and report on horse conformation using objective, industry terminology 1.2 Observe and identify desirable horse conformation relevant to breed standard or performance discipline 1.3 Observe and identify indicators of horse unsoundness and blemishes 1.4 Identify essential elements of horse movement relevant to breed standard and performance discipline 1.5 Design and apply conformation and movement criteria for assessing and selecting horses for specific performance discipline |
| 2. Analyse relationship of conformation to specific performance horse sports | 2.1 Establish indicators of ideal sport-specific conformation according to sport or sector guidelines 2.2 Apply ideal sport-specific horse conformation indicators to horse selection procedures 2.3 Identify undesirable sport-specific conformation traits, and determine the implications of these traits on performance 2.4 Implement strategies to resolve or manage undesirable conformation traits to reduce negative impacts on performance horses |
| 3. Assess conformation in young horses and develop correction plan | 3.1 Assess and report on foal and young horse conformation against established breed and sport standards using industry terminology 3.2 Identify undesirable characteristics of foal and young horse conformation 3.3 Develop corrective action plan to rectify undesirable conformation characteristics in consultation with industry professionals 3.4 Ensure strategies in corrective action plan meet organisation objectives and comply with animal welfare and health and safety requirements |

Commented [SH1]:
Suggest incorporating ACMEQU403 Relate musculoskeletal structure to horse movement into this unit
See revised / draft elements in blue (over page)

Note ACMPH409 Analyse performance horse pedigrees covers conformation also

Commented [SH2]: Application section to be updated if revised elements and PCs (over page) are accepted

Commented [SH3]: Revised elements and PCs in blue - over page

Commented [SH4]: 1.1 Covered in foundation skills - delete from here

Commented [SH5]: Are 1.5 and 2.1 saying the same thing?

Commented [SH6]: indicators or traits or characteristics? 2.3, 2.4

Commented [SH7]: Merged 3.1 and 3.2

3.1 Assess and report on foal and young horse conformation against established breed and sport standards using industry terminology

Merged elements 3 and 4

Commented [SH8]: indicators or traits or characteristics? 3.2, 3.3

ACMPHR5X3 Evaluate horse conformation and physical condition

| Elements | Performance Criteria |
|--|--|
| <i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i> | <i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i> |
| ACMPHR5X3 | Evaluate horse conformation and physical condition |
| 1. Evaluate equine structural features | 1.1 Observe and assess equine skeletal structure, planes and proportions 1.2 Examine structural features of fore and hind legs and hooves 1.3 Assess size, shape and key features of the neck and head 1.4 Observe horse movement and determine structural soundness |
| 2. Evaluate equine muscling | 2.1 Observe horse from different angles and evaluate muscling at key points 2.2 Identify location of muscles, tendons and ligaments of significance to power and movement |
| 3. Assess horse conformation | 3.1 Relate breed standards to horse conformation 3.2 Relate conformation features to various equine work, sport or recreational activities |
| 4. Assess physical condition of a horse | 4.1 Assess horse age and identify impact of growth in equine musculoskeletal system 4.2 Assess conformation in young horses and develop correction plan according to organisation and animal welfare requirements 4.3 Assess structural differences in physical appearance and muscling between conditioned and unconditioned horses 4.4 Identify indicators of overtraining, exercise and injury on equine musculoskeletal system 4.5 Assess horse movement to determine possible causes of ailments and injuries 4.6 Convey information about the equine musculoskeletal system to others |

Commented [SH3]: Revised elements and PCs in blue - over page

Commented [SH9]: Revised elements and PCs that also address musculoskeletal system covered in ACMEQU403 Relate musculoskeletal structure to horse movement

Commented [SH10]: Is soundness the correct term? Or structural correctness and balance?

Commented [SH11]: PC from ACMPHR505 Manage fitness in performance horses

| Foundation Skills | |
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| <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"> Interpret and analyse anatomical diagrams and textual information from a variety of technical and performance horse sport sources |
| Writing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Record observations in a logical format Use objective, industry standard terminology to describe horse conformation |
| Oral communication | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain complex anatomical and physiological concepts using language suitable to audience to convey information and requirements Use listening and questioning techniques to confirm understanding |

| Unit Mapping Information | | | |
|---|--|--|--------------------|
| Code and title current version | Code and title previous version | Comments | Equivalence status |
| ACMPHR5X3 Evaluate horse conformation and physical condition | ACMPHR503 Evaluate performance horse conformation | Title changed Performance criteria updated for clarity Elements 3 and 4 merged Foundation skills table updated Assessment requirements updated | Not equivalent |

ACMPHR5X3 Evaluate horse conformation and physical condition

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|---|---|--|----------------|
| ACMPHR5X3 Evaluate horse conformation and physical condition | ACMEQU403 Relate musculoskeletal structure to horse movement | Redesigned unit merging <i>ACMEQU403 Relate musculoskeletal structure to horse movement</i> and <i>ACMPHR503 Evaluate performance horse conformation</i> Title changed Elements and performance criteria updated for clarity Assessment requirements updated | Not equivalent |
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| 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 ACMPHR5X3 Evaluate horse conformation and physical condition |
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| 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"> • observed and examined the conformation and physical condition of at least four different horses, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • at least one foal or other young horse • at least one horse requiring a corrective action plan - this may include a foal or other young horse • handled and interacted with horses safely using low stress techniques during examinations and observations • reported on the conformation of each horse covering: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • desirable and undesirable conformational features • requirements of established breed and sport standards • provide a report on each horse. <p>OLD PE</p> <p>There must be evidence that the individual has observed, examined and evaluated the conformation of at least three horses, including at least one foal or other young horse, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • handling horses safely and humanely during examinations and observations • reporting on the conformation of horses covering: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • desirable and undesirable conformational features • requirements of established breed and sport standards • developing corrective action plans to manage undesirable characteristics and rectify conformation traits of individual horses • using health care practices, including bandaging and hoof care as part of corrective action strategies • complying with regulatory requirements and workplace and industry procedures and practices relevant to role and evaluating performance horse conformation, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • animal welfare and prevention of cruelty to animals • work health and safety. | |

Commented [SH12]: Updated PE for revised elements & PCs

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| 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"> • techniques for analysing horse conformation • desirable and undesirable conformation characteristics of horses • normal and abnormal features of horse gaits and movement • features of unsoundness and blemishes in horses and foals • performance horse breeds and conformation characteristics • breed conformation standards of excellence • industry standard conformation terminology • performance horse sports requirements relevant to conformation • features and strategies used in corrective action plans for conformation issues, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • bandaging, hoof care and farriery procedures for correcting abnormal horse conformation • veterinary procedures for correcting abnormal horse conformation • key requirements of relevant legislation and codes of practice, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • workplace health and safety relating to risk assessment, control and review; safe handling and interactions with horses, and use of personal protective equipment (PPE) • animal welfare relating to the safe, humane and ethical care of horses • biosecurity, infection control and hygiene standards. | |

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| Assessment Conditions | |
| Assessment of the skills in this unit of competency must take place under the following conditions: | |

Assessment Conditions

- physical conditions:
 - an equine workplace or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - various live horses, including foals and young horses, as specified in the performance evidence – note that young horses can be less compliant and highly reactive, and should be assessed as suitable for the experience and skill of the individual
 - information about horse conformation, breed standards and sport/discipline requirements, or technology to access the information.

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>