Modification history

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| Release | Comments |
| Release 1 | This version released with RGR Racing Training Package Version 1.0. |

| RGRPSH308 | Provide first aid and emergency care for horses or other equines |
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| Application | This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to measure and record vital signs of horses or other equines, identify and report signs of common illnesses and injuries, provide emergency care and follow first aid policies and procedures.  The unit applies to individuals who work in a broad range of occupations in horse or other equine related industries carrying out work under broad direction within industry guidelines.  No licensing or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.  Work health and safety and animal welfare legislation relevant to interacting with horses apply to workers in this industry. Requirements vary in each state/territory jurisdiction. Users are advised to check with the relevant authority for specific requirements. |
| Prerequisite Unit | Nil |
| Unit Sector | Performance Horse (PSH) |

| Elements | Performance Criteria |
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| Elements describe the essential outcomes. | Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element. |
| 1. Recognise and report signs of ill health or injury in horses or other equines | 1.1 Measure and record temperature, pulse and respiration  1.2 Observe and report hydration levels and capillary refill  1.3 Observe, identify and report signs of common illnesses in horses or other equines  1.4 Observe, identify and report signs of shock in horses  1.5 Determine and report signs of common injuries in horses or other equines |
| 2. Assess illnesses or injuries in horses or other equines | 2.1 Inspect incident site and assess risks prior to helping horses or other equines  2.2 Assess threat to life of illness or injury and incorporate into plan of action  2.3 Calm, restrain and/or quarantine horses or other equines using safe and ethical handling techniques  2.4 Follow first aid policy and procedures with respect to obligations to owners, state regulations, stable policy and duty of care  2.5 Follow referral or reporting procedures for injury treatment and emergency care |
| 3. Apply basic first aid to horses or other equines | 3.1 Use restraints and safe and ethical handling techniques to prevent further injury or to apply first aid to horses or other equines  3.2 Clean wounds and protect from further contamination or injury  3.3 Apply bandages for management of bleeding, swelling and wounds  3.4 Control swelling using appropriate techniques and materials  3.5 Nurse horse or other equine to reduce impact of shock, distress and pain  3.6 Monitor behaviour and vital signs and record observations and treatments |
| 4. Respond to hoof and leg illnesses and injuries | 4.1 Inspect feet and legs for signs of injury, soreness or foreign bodies  4.2 Identify common injuries and ailments to hooves, feet and legs  4.3 Apply poultice to affected area  4.4 Determine damage or irregular condition and fit of shoes |
| 5. Assess health and fitness of horses or other equines | 5.1 Implement pre and post-race or activity assessment of horse or other equine for injuries, distress, health and fitness  5.2 Apply pharmaceutical or therapeutic treatments under trainer or veterinary or equine health practitioner instructions and supervision  5.3 Identify and follow industry rules relating to prohibited substances and alternative treatments |

| 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. | |
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| Skill | Description |
| Reading | * Interpret textual information in workplace procedures and veterinary and medical instructions relating to the health and welfare of horses * Locate and interpret key information in medication labels |
| Writing | * Use clear language and accurate industry and/or medical terminology for reporting and recording horse health and welfare information |
| Numeracy | * Perform basic calculations and measurements of volume, weight and ratios to determine doses of medication |
| Navigate the world of work | * Follow workplace procedures, including safety, animal welfare and first aid administration requirements, and meet expectations relating to own role and area of responsibility |
| Interact with others | * Follow accepted industry practices and protocols for working collaboratively with and reporting horse health issues to supervisors and specialists |
| Get the work done | * Monitor horse condition, assess health and injury irregularities and make decisions to initiate routine treatment or seek specialist advice and assistance |

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| Unit Mapping Information | | | |
| Code and title current version | Code and title previous version | Comments | Equivalence status |
| RGRPSH308 Provide first aid and emergency care for horses or other equines | RGRPSH308A Provide first aid and emergency care for horses | Updated to meet Standards for Training Packages  Minor changes to title and performance criteria | Equivalent unit |

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| Links | Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: https://vetnet.education.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=5c4b8489-f7e1-463b-81c8-6ecce6c192a0 |

| TITLE | Assessment requirements for RGRPSH308 Provide first aid and emergency care for horses or other equines |
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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 provided first aid and emergency care for at least two horses or other equines (or completed appropriate simulations), including for each:   * carried out a safety check of the factors relating to situation, incident site and/or treatment environment * assessed illness or injury and provided appropriate first aid to horse or other equine, including: * responding to hoof and leg illness or injury * calming and/or restraining horse or other equine safely and ethically * applying quarantine control measures for isolation of sick horse or other equine * reported irregularities to stable nominated person in a timely manner * supported others handling and providing treatment to horses or other equines. | |

| Knowledge Evidence |
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| 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, practices and industry terminology related to emergency care and first aid for horses or other equines * common equine behaviour including when injured, stressed or ill * zoonosis, disease and biosecurity control and reporting requirements, including: * infectious reportable illnesses - Strangles, Tetanus, EI, Hendra * safe handling techniques and methods of restraining horses or other equines * risks associated with catching, handling and restraining equines * signs and types of treatment for common illnesses and injuries in equines, including: * lameness * shock * relevant industry rules for providing first aid and emergency care for horses including rules for prohibited substances and alternative treatments * industry standards and expectations relevant to providing first aid and emergency care for horses: * effective working relationships including teamwork * industry animal welfare requirements * industry safety requirements including safe operating procedures. |

| Assessment Conditions |
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| Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:   * physical conditions: * a workplace or simulated environment that accurately reflects performance in a real workplace setting * resources, equipment and materials: * various horses or other equines requiring first aid or emergency care assessed as suitable for the skills and experience of the individual or appropriate simulations if safety or access to injured equines is restricted * materials and equipment relevant to providing first aid and emergency care * personal protective equipment correctly fitted and appropriate for activity * access to trainer and/or veterinarian for instructions.   Training and assessment strategies must show evidence 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. |

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