Modification history

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

| ACMEQU2X17 | Provide non-riding exercises to horse |
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| Application | This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge that are required to prepare horses for exercise, use mechanical exercise equipment, swim horses and perform post-exercise procedures. It covers knowledge of potential safety risks when interacting with and exercising horses.  This unit applies to workers in industries involving horses, who undertake routine non ridden horse exercise tasks under supervision. The exercise may be undertaken in yards, exercise arenas, swimming areas and using horse walkers or treadmills.  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.  No licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication, except for the racing industry, where requirements vary between states and territories. Users working in the racing industry are advised to contact the relevant Principal Racing Authority for advice on current requirements. |
| Prerequisite Unit | ACMEQU2X12 Handle horses safely |
| Unit Sector | Equine (EQU) |

| 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. Prepare horse for exercise | 1.1 Confirm horse to exercise, exercise program, equipment and/or facilities and other individual horse requirements  1.2 Identify hazards, assess risks and control and/or report risks prior to handling horse and starting exercise  1.3 Select and correctly fit personal protective equipment (PPE) appropriate for task  1.4 Select, check and fit gear to horse for exercise program and prepare the horse for exercise using safe and low stress handling techniques |
| 2. Exercise horse using exercise machine | 2.1 Locate the start and stop switches and emergency stop buttons for exercise machine and practice emergency stop procedures  2.2 Operate machine without horse to ensure equipment is working correctly, and identify emergency exit points for handler  2.3 Adjust the speed of machine according to program or supervisor instructions  2.4 Load horse on to machine using safe and low stress horse handling techniques  2.5 Operate machine and monitor horse behaviour and performance  2.6 Reduce machine speed and/or stop machine if horse displays signs of distress or injury during exercise, and report to supervisor  2.7 Unload horse from machine using safe and low stress horse handling techniques  2.8 Complete routine cleaning and maintenance procedures for exercise machine |
| 3. Swim suitably educated horses | 3.1 Identify hazards, assess risks and control and/or report risks prior to handling horses and swimming  3.2 Select and correctly fit PPE appropriate for task  3.3 Operate emergency flotation devices and rescue equipment for handler and horse  3.4 Select and fit horse with required gear for swimming  3.5 Lead horse into water safely and control or supervise horse while it is undertaking swimming program using low stress horse handling techniques  3.6 Conduct swimming exercise according to instructions, and monitor horse behaviour and performance  3.7 Reduce intensity of and/ or stop swimming if horse displays signs of distress or injury during exercise, and report to supervisor  3.8 Lead horse out of water, scrape down and towel dry using safe and low stress horse handling techniques |
| 4. Perform post-exercise procedures | 4.1 Remove gear from horse and check horse for signs of injury  4.2 Cool down, hose, ice and groom horse after exercise according to horse requirements and workplace procedures  4.3 Record and report on horse performance and irregular horse behaviour, signs of distress or injury during and after exercise to supervisor  4.4 Check and maintain gear before storage and report gear quality and maintenance issues to supervisor |

| 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 | * Accurately interpret horse exercise program requirements * Accurately interpret operating and safety instructions related to horse exercise machines and swimming pools |
| Oral communication | * Use active listening and questioning to clarify and confirm supervisor instructions * Use industry terminology to describe and report horse non-riding exercise activities and condition |
| Numeracy | * Measure and calculate weight, temperature, time, distance, speed, and gradient |

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| Unit Mapping Information | | | |
| Code and title current version | Code and title previous version | Comments | Equivalence status |
| ACMEQU2X17 Provide non-riding exercises to horse | ACMEQU209 Provide non-riding exercises to horse | Application updated  Performance criteria revised, reordered, or merged for clarity  Element 3 revised for clarity  Previous element 5 merged into Element 4  Foundation skills updated  Performance Evidence, Knowledge Evidence and Assessment Conditions updated | 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> |

| TITLE | Assessment requirements for ACMEQU2X17 Provide non-riding exercises to horse |
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| Performance Evidence | |
| An individual demonstrating competency in this unit must satisfy all of the elements and performance criteria of this unit.  There must be evidence that the individual has handled and provided non-riding exercise, to two different well-educated, calm, consistent and obedient horses. Each horse must be exercised on at least two different occasions during which the individual has:   * loaded and unloaded at least one horse safely onto mechanical exercise equipment for exercise for at least ten minutes * lead at least one horse safely into and out of water for swimming exercise for at least five minutes.   For each horse exercise activity, the individual must have:   * identified hazards, assess risks and control and/or report risks prior to handling horses and starting exercise * used safe and low stress horse handling techniques when exercising horse * monitored horse health and behaviour before, during and after exercise and reported signs of distress, illness or injury to supervisor * followed safe work practices for the operation of exercise equipment * communicated effectively with supervisor, including raising issues of concern related to operation of exercise equipment and conduct of exercise programs * selected, fitted and cared for horse gear and equipment for non-riding exercise tasks * selected, checked and correctly fitted personal protective equipment (PPE) * performed pre-exercise routines according to workplace procedures * carried out post-exercise care of horses, including cooling down via hand walking, hosing, ice application and grooming techniques * cleaned exercise equipment according to workplace instructions and manufacturer instructions * updated exercise program records and reported horse performance and condition to supervisor. | |

| 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:   * workplace procedures for non-riding exercise to horses, including pre-exercise, during exercise and post-exercise procedures * workplace communication procedures for conducting non-riding horse exercise programs * common horse behaviour and management related to exercise routines and fitness * signs of horse injury, fatigue and distress related to non-ridden exercise activities * likely injuries that may be sustained by horses and handlers during non-ridden exercise * safe and low stress horse handling techniques and zones in and around exercise equipment * types and purpose of horse working gear required for mechanical exercise equipment and for swimming horses * requirements for checking and maintaining horse working gear and exercise equipment * key features of exercise programs for horses at various stages of fitness, on mechanical exercise equipment and during swimming * common workplace health and safety requirements and practices relating non-ridden horse exercise, including: * hazard identification and risk assessment and risk control and reporting * types and purpose of PPE, including PPE for working water and around electricity * handling, restraining and working with horses in water and on exercise machines * safe storage handling and disposal of treatments, chemicals and cleaning agents * horse welfare considerations exercise, including: * weather, including wind and temperature * fatigue and stress * health status, including current injuries * workplace horse exercise and condition reporting systems and practices. |

| Assessment Conditions |
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| Assessment of the skills in this unit of competency must take place under the following conditions:   * physical conditions: * an equine exercise facility * resources, equipment and materials: * live horses specified in the performance evidence assessed as suitable for the assessment of this unit and the individual being assessed * mechanical exercise equipment and swimming area for horses, including safety instructions for their use * gear, materials, tools and equipment suitable for the tasks specified in the performance evidence, including PPE * workplace reporting and recording formats * specifications: * workplace programs, procedures and instructions or for exercising horses * relationships * supervisor.   The Companion Volume: User Guide: Safety in Equine Training provides advice and sample templates to assist assessors with the risk assessments that should be undertaken to help ensure the safety of all involved in the assessment.  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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