Modification history

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

| ACMEQU4X13 | Establish professional practices in equine service provision |
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| Application | This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to work professionally as an equine service provider. It covers knowledge of relevant state/territory regulations and scope of practice requirements. Practical skills cover safe handling and securing of equines while working in close proximity, managing hygiene and biosecurity, and establishing and maintaining accurate client and equine records.  The unit applies to practitioners who provide a range of health, care, training and gear fitting services for horses and other equines. They work autonomously and apply in depth, technical knowledge and skills to provide and communicate solutions for predictable and unpredictable problems within their scope of professional practice.  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. |
| Prerequisite Unit | Nil |
| 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. Investigate legislative requirements relating to equine service provision | 1.1 Identify requirements relating to equine service practitioner scope of practice, industry codes of conduct and relevant veterinary practice, and poisons and restricted and controlled substances legislation  1.2 Identify and comply with legislative and code of practice requirements relating to animal welfare, health and safety and environmental sustainability relevant to conducting equine services  1.3 Investigate and establish legal, insurance and business requirements relevant to equine service provision |
| 2. Establish safe work practices in providing services for clients | 2.1 Provide information to client on compliance with health and safety, other relevant legislation and insurances, as required  2.2 Complete site induction and/or review visitor safety procedures relevant to service provision from client  2.3 Assess work area and risks associated with confined and open spaces, proximity of other animals and environmental conditions  2.4 Assess potential safety hazards and risks for self, others and equines in performing the service  2.5 Confirm personal protective equipment (PPE) and gear required for service is maintained and functional  2.6 Report incidents relating to people and equines  2.7 Provide feedback to client relating to health and safety issues and suggested improvements |
| 3. Handle and secure equines safely in close proximity | 3.1 Observe equine behaviour and identify potential behavioural safety risks to practitioner, handlers and equine  3.2 Use safe, low stress techniques and restraints when handling and securing equines  3.3 Use examination and palpation techniques suitable for equine body part and service provision  3.4 Work within equine safety zones and position own body and hands to detect potential horse movement and reactions to handling  3.5 Recognise situations where sedation is required to manage equine behaviour or to undertake the service for safety and equine welfare  3.6 Follow appropriate procedures and relevant state/territory legislation relating to equine sedation, if determined necessary |
| 4. Plan and manage hygiene and biosecurity when carrying out equine service provision | 4.1 Devise and apply a hygiene procedure for self, equipment, vehicle and premises, as required  4.2 Select and correctly use PPE that promotes hygiene and infection control appropriate for activity  4.3 Clean, disinfect and/or sterilise equipment appropriate for service activity  4.4 Recognise signs that suggest an infectious equine or zoonotic disease  4.5 Communicate hygiene and biosecurity risks to others and follow referral and reporting procedures as required  4.6 Dispose of contaminated and biological waste and chemicals safely according to legislation and environmental requirements |
| 5 Establish and maintain client and equine records | 5.1 Devise and implement record keeping system for managing client information  5.2 Select charts and accurately record and interpret equine information relevant to service provision  5.3 Establish invoice and payment system linked to client records  5.4 Maintain records for business management and taxation purposes |
| 6. Promote services and maintain industry currency | 6.1 Promote services and importance of regular equine health and care, relevant to area of expertise, to equine owners and carers  6.2 Investigate and maintain knowledge of current industry trends, terminology and technologies relevant to area of service provision  6.3 Establish a network of registered veterinarians and other appropriate equine service providers for referrals |

| 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 information provided in equine treatment records and veterinary advice |
| Writing | * Use objective language and current industry terminology in written records |
| Oral communication | * Use questioning and active listening to elicit and convey information appropriate for audience |

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| Unit Mapping Information | | | |
| Code and title current version | Code and title previous version | Comments | Equivalence status |
| ACMEQU4X13 Establish professional practices in equine service provision | ACMEQD401 Work within an equine dental service provision framework | Changed title and sector code (EQU)  Redesigned unit with changes to elements and performance criteria to reflect broader intent of redesigned unit | 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> |

| TITLE | Assessment requirements for ACMEQU4X13 Establish professional practices in equine service provision |
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| Performance Evidence | |
| An individual demonstrating competency must satisfy all the elements and performance criteria in this unit.    There must be evidence that the individual has established professional practices in equine service provision, including:   * prepared a document describing the equine service and activities, relevant to area of expertise, that can be offered to clients based on analysis of: * current state/territory veterinary practice legislation relating to scope of practice, where applicable * current state/territory health and safety legislation and codes of conduct * current state/territory animal welfare legislation and guidelines * legal, insurance and/or business requirements * safely handled and secured at least ten equines, using low stress handling techniques and restraints, while working in close proximity to undertake an examination or treatment * developed a checklist covering safe work practices and required equipment to manage hygiene, infection control and biosecurity relevant area of expertise (service provision) * customised template/s or format/s to meet needs of own service provision covering: * hazard assessment and risk control measures related to working on client's property and interacting with horses * equine characteristics including behaviour, condition and service * client information and details * relevant invoice/payment details. | |

| 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:   * range of options available in the management of equine health, therapies and treatments * current evidence-based approaches to equine service provision relevant to area of expertise * appropriate industry and anatomical terminology related to equine health care * principles of equine service provision, including: * preventative practices to minimise safety hazards and risks * maintaining handler and equine health and hygiene * adherence to principles of client confidentiality * referring equines requiring treatment outside the provider's professional and personal scope * adherence to relevant code of conduct or industry guidelines * adherence to relevant state/territory regulations and requirements * role and responsibilities of equine service providers, including: * relevant veterinary practice and restricted acts of veterinary science * relevant state/territory legislation relating to poisons and supply, possession and use of restricted and controlled substances * qualifications and services provided by equine service practitioners and registered veterinarians * professional indemnity and public liability insurance requirements * working with children checks * equine behaviour and indicators of health issues, including: * gait issues * increased resistance to bridle, saddle or other gear * nervousness, unsettled or unwilling to perform correctly or consistently * key industry trends and advancements in area of expertise * key requirements of health and safety regulations and codes of practice relating to: * safe work practices * purpose and types of personal protective equipment * risk assessment, control and review * safe equine interactions and handling techniques * storage of chemicals and veterinary prescribed medicines * key biosecurity, hygiene and environmental requirements, including: * disinfection and sterilisation procedures * infection control with respect to infectious and zoonotic diseases * notifiable diseases and quarantine or isolation procedures * disposal of waste and chemicals * key requirements of animal welfare legislation relevant to the safe and ethical care of equines. |

| 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 workplace or an environment that accurately reflects performance in a real workplace setting * resources, equipment and materials: * live horses assessed as suitable for the skills and experience of the individual and service provided * templates and formats for records and charts * specifications: * legislation, regulations, codes of practice and standards relevant to equine service provision in area of expertise.   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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