Modification history

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

| RGRPSH408 | Manage horse health and welfare |
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| Application | This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to monitor, implement and maintain horse health and welfare, including ensuring provision of safe, compliant housing; determining horse health problems; deciding on and administering treatment and monitoring horse progress.  The unit applies to individuals who have experience and specialised knowledge and skills in the practical care and management of harness or thoroughbred racehorses; and have responsibility for a work activity or area.  Licensing, legislative, regulatory or certification requirements apply to this unit. Users are advised to check with the relevant Principal Racing Authority for current requirements.  Work health and safety and animal welfare legislation relevant to interacting with horses applies to workers in this industry. Requirements vary between industry sectors and state/territory jurisdictions. 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. Plan horse health and emergency care procedures | 1.1 Develop health and emergency care protocols and programs and communicate to staff  1.2 House horses in suitable and approved premises maintained to health and safety standards specified by rules of racing and other regulations  1.3 Assess health status of individual horses  1.4 Review characteristics, signs and symptoms of healthy and sick or injured horses  1.5 Identify communicable diseases and implement control measures  1.6 Identify signs and symptoms of distressed or injured horses and prioritise horse for treatment |
| 2. Implement health management programs for horses | 2.1 Oversee health programs including, dental, vaccination, parasite control and hoof maintenance programs  2.2 Record data and compile and update health records |
| 3. Decide on treatment for horses | 3.1 Determine health care and management  3.2 Discuss prognosis for common illnesses and injuries with key stable personnel and/or trainer  3.3 Determine the need for veterinary assistance and/or specialist advice  3.4 Evaluate treatment options and select preferred option for common injuries and illnesses |
| 4. Administer treatment and monitor horse progress | 4.1 Assess and control risks prior to administering medication or treatments  4.2 Administer medication or treatments according to stable procedures, directions, and industry and animal welfare regulations  4.3 Confirm methods of administering medication, recording treatment and monitoring injectable medication  4.4 Administer medications including, oral and topical medications and inhalants, safely and ethically  4.5 Bandage horses using techniques and pressure to address injury  4.6 Monitor horse progress reporting irregularities and maintaining records according to stable procedures |

| 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 veterinary and medical information in horse treatment programs and instructions from specialists * 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 |
| Oral communication | * Use active listening and questioning techniques to convey and receive information from a range of personnel |
| Navigate the world of work | * Follow workplace procedures, including safety and animal welfare 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 conveying information to trainers, staff and veterinary and health practitioners |
| Get the work done | * Plan, sequence and prioritise horse health and welfare activities to achieve outcomes * Make decisions and resolve problems related to horse health and welfare, knowing when to take responsibility and when to notify others |

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| Unit Mapping Information | | | |
| Code and title current version | Code and title previous version | Comments | Equivalence status |
| RGRPSH408 Manage horse health and welfare | RGRPSH408A Manage horse health and welfare | Updated to meet Standards for Training Packages  Minor changes performance criteria to clarify intent of unit | 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 RGRPSH408 Manage horse health and welfare |
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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 managed a health and welfare program for at least three standardbred or thoroughbred horses, including:   * developed and planned horse health and emergency care procedures * implemented health management programs for dental, vaccination, parasite control and hoof maintenance for each horse * responded to illnesses or injuries deciding on appropriate treatment for each horse * administered treatments and medication according to directions * monitored each horse's progress, recorded health data and reported irregularities. * housed horses in approved premises maintained to industry health and safety standards * calmed and restrained horses ethically and humanely and assessed vital signs * supported others in handling and treating horses according to health management plan. | |

| 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 and practices of horse health and welfare * features of appropriate horse housing * common horse behaviour, social traits and vices * common illnesses and injuries in horses * signs and symptoms of communicable diseases and treatment options * features of equine dental health and programs * features of hoof maintenance programs * features of parasite programs and types of treatments * vaccination programs * prohibited substances * types of medication and treatments * basics of horse first aid * emergency protocols and quarantine measures * safe and humane handling and restraining techniques for horses * horse health record systems * racing industry standards and expectations relevant to managing horse health and welfare: * communication procedures within stable and wider racing industry * racing industry animal welfare requirements * racing industry safety requirements including safe operating procedures * relevant rules of racing related to housing and care of horses. |

| Assessment Conditions |
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| Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:   * physical conditions: * safe handling areas, such as racing stables and racetracks * resources, equipment and materials: * various standardbred or thoroughbred racehorses assessed as suitable for the skills and experience of the individual * materials and equipment relevant to providing care and treatment for horses in assessment activity * personal protective equipment correctly fitted and appropriate for activity for candidate * relationships (inter and/or external): * access to trainer and/or veterinary 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. |

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