

Horse Care Project

Summary of Validation Feedback, Responses and Actions



September 2021

Final draft qualifications, units of competency and skill sets for the Horse Care Project were made available on the [Skills Impact website](#) for validation from 22 June to 6 July 2021. Final drafts relating to equine dentistry and massage were available for validation from 13 to 27 July 2021. Please visit the website to view a full list of the documents that were submitted for consultation during this phase.

Feedback was received from a variety of stakeholders around the country via email, the Skills Impact Feedback Hub, webinars, via phone and email, as follows:

	ACT	NSW	NT	Qld	SA	Tas	Vic	WA	National
Industry (employer / employee)									
Industry association									
Union									
Registered Training Organisation (RTO)									
Government department									

General note: While there was no direct participation from Tasmania during validation, their interests were represented by national associations. Stakeholders from Tasmania were engaged earlier in the consultation process.

Below is a summary of the feedback raised for the draft qualifications, units of competency and skill sets developed and reviewed for the Horse Care project at the 'Validation' stage, and how these have been dealt with. This involves a consideration of the information provided, views of industry stakeholders and from people who are part of the Subject Matter Expert Working Group process, and discussion with the Animal Care and Management Industry Reference Committee (IRC). Resolutions are constructed to consider the needs and views of stakeholders to the extent possible, and to comply with the *Standards for Training Package 2012*. The resolutions may represent a compromise on one or more stakeholder views with the aim of a workable outcome for industry, State and Territory Training Authorities (STAs) and training providers.

Acronyms: APP – Application, E – Element, PC – Performance Criteria, PE – Performance Evidence, KE – Knowledge Evidence, AC – Assessment Conditions, SMEs – Subject Matter Experts, SMEWG – Subject Matter Expert Working Group, ACM IRC – Animal Care and Management Industry Reference Committee, ER – Entry Requirements

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Summary of feedback on draft qualification ACM20221 Certificate II in Horse Care

Comments related to Elective Units – General Comments

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, VIC 	<p>Would suggest that the Cert III unit - ACMINF302 Follow equine biosecurity and infection control procedures would be worthwhile including in the Cert II (it is currently core in Cert III only).</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. Suggestion adopted and ACMINF302 has been added to the electives of the qualification.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, WA 	<p>ACMEQU221 Manage personal health and fitness for working with horses would be suitable in the core of both Cert II & III in Horse Care. My reasons being - as trainer assessor's, we are preparing clients for industry, as the horse industry has it's reputation for not really being involved in the individual employees health and fitness, other than it impacting on their ability to actually work, I saw this unit as a way of giving clients about to go into the industry enough knowledge to take some care for themselves and be active at being able to do so. I can understand industry not being interested in the unit but as an RTO preparing clients for the horse industry there might have been more thought to it.</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. Feedback on whether the unit should be core or elective has been divided during consultations. Some feedback suggests the unit contains some sensitive outcomes (such as weight management) that may not be appropriate for all learners undertaking <i>Certificate II in Horse Care</i>. To avoid potential completion barriers, <i>ACMEQU221 Manage personal health and fitness for working with horses</i> has been left as elective in the <i>Certificate II in Horse Care</i> but made a core in the Certificate III.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, WA 	<p>Support with minor changes: Electives Group B: RGRHBR307: not sure the relevance of this unit - very high level skills - definitely not suitable even though an elective in my opinion ACMINF202 & 302: these are two very useful units - teach fencing all the time RGRPSH308: not sure the relevance of this unit - very high level skills - definitely not suitable even though an elective in my opinion Group C: I am still struggling to see why these need to be here any more as the units they applied to have been removed and only map to each other?</p>	<p>Thank you for the supportive comments, especially about the inclusion of ACMINF202 and ACMINF302 as electives. RGRHBR307 and RGRPSH308 have been kept in the qualification based on advice that some workplaces (horse breeding) require these skills in their entry level workers, and there is not an alternative suitable unit. Group C contains the three prerequisite units for <i>AHCLSK218 Ride educated horses to carry out basic stock work</i>. This issue will be resolved when the imported AHC unit is updated and its prerequisites changed as part of a future project.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTOs, NSW, WA & QLD Industry, NSW & ACT Industry Associations, National 	<p>Description: support inclusion of 'livestock sites' ACMEQU220* Lunge educated horses - keep as elective ACMINF302 Follow equine biosecurity and infection control procedures - keep as elective ACMEQU221 Manage personal health and fitness for working with horses - keep as elective RGRHBR307 Carry out procedures for foaling down mares - keep as elective</p>	<p>The revised draft of the qualification reflects the decisions taken in the validation meeting as suggested.</p>

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
	RGRPSH308 Provide first aid and emergency care for horses or other equines - keep as elective.	

General Qualification comments

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, WA 	Document approved in validation	Thank you for supporting the qualification.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, NT 	<p>Not Supported: Description: (They may also ride horses.): is this relevant? this unit is handling not riding. Second paragraph: is this unit relevant to agriculture? if not relevant why is it in the AHC package?</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. The description includes 'they may also ride horses' because there are several horse riding electives that can be undertaken as part of the qualification.</p> <p>Second paragraph: The qualification is in the <i>ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package</i>. 'Livestock sites' has been added to the second paragraph show that some of the graduates of the qualification may be employed on livestock worksites.</p>

Summary of feedback on draft qualification ACM30821 Certificate III in Horse Care

Comments related to Core Units

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTOs, NSW, WA & QLD Industry, NSW & ACT Industry Associations, National 	Move <i>ACMEQU221 Manage personal health and fitness for working with horses</i> to core	<p>Thank you for the feedback. The revised draft of the qualification reflects the decisions taken in the validation meeting as suggested.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, WA 	<p><i>ACMEQU221 Manage personal health and fitness for working with horses</i> would be suitable in the core of both Cert II & III in Horse Care. My reasons being - as trainer assessor's, we are preparing clients for industry, as the horse industry has its reputation for not really being involved in the individual employees health and fitness, other than it impacting on their ability to actually work, I saw this unit as a way of giving clients about to go into the industry enough knowledge to take some care for themselves</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. Suggestion adopted and the unit has been made a core in the <i>Certificate III in Horse Care</i>. It has been left as an elective in the Certificate II - refer to the comments above.</p>

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
	and be active at being able to do so. I can understand industry not being interested in the unit but as an RTO preparing clients for the horse industry there might have been more thought to it.	

General Qualification comments

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, NSW 	We feel 16 units of competencies as ample and not necessary to achieve 18. 16 units provides enough variety to study and become equipped with key knowledge and skills within the units listed within the qualification. We train 5 days a week, face to face practical hands on training over a 12 month period and have found 16 units a good number which allows students the time to really focus on the core skills of the elected units.	Thank you for the feedback. After consultation, the SMEWG advised to keep the total number of units to achieve the qualification at 18. This reflects the findings of the Workforce Functional Analysis that identified that additional units were required to ensure an individual has broader knowledge and greater skills at the completion of their training.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTOs, NSW, WA & QLD Industry, NSW & ACT Industry Associations, National 	Description: support inclusion of 'livestock sites' PR: Keep 18 units, change to 9 core and 9 electives, update elective groups to reflect accurate numbers and percentages	The revised draft of the qualification reflects the decisions taken in the validation meeting as suggested.

Summary of feedback on draft qualification ACM30921 Certificate III in Equine Hoof Care

General Qualification comments

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, WA 	Support with minor changes: PR: why not just state that group C electives can only be selected if RGRHBR307 is selected as that is the only unit they apply to? It is a pity our ACMHBR305 was superseded by RGRHBR304 and we can't change the pre-req on the RGR units as that would eliminate this group C - it just looks messy I feel.	Thank you for the feedback. The statement has been designed to prevent the use of ACMEQU202 and ACMEQU205 to units that require these two units as prerequisites, e.g. RGRHBR304. Under the Packaging Rules, users may also import other elective units that have these prerequisites, so the statement needs to remain generic. This issue will be logged for resolution when the imported RGR unit, and other units that have ACMEQU202 and ACMEQU205 as prerequisites are updated as part of future projects.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, VIC 	Description: non-routine: AQF 4 learning outcome criteria for skills 'complete routine and non-routine activities' complex: AQF 5 learning outcome criteria for skills 'provide and transmit solutions to sometimes complex problems'	Thank you for the feedback. The term 'complex' has been removed from the qualification description and replaced with 'non routine'. While 4 of the 11 units in the core are coded at AQF level 4, there are also 2 units coded at AQF level 2, and 5 coded at AQF level 3, which provide

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
	Core: Four of 11 core units are at AQF IV level suggesting learning outcomes exceeding AQF III. Will this qualification comply (in terms of learning outcomes) with the AQF specifications for Certificate III qualifications? See question in feedback comment (draft 2 stage).	balance to the qualification alignment. To ensure the qualification aligns with AQF level 3 when it is implemented, the following statement has been added to the packaging rules - "A maximum of 2 of the 6 elective units may be selected coded with an AQF indicator above level 3 or reflect outcomes above AQF level 3"
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTOs, NSW, WA & QLD Industry, NSW & ACT Industry Associations, National 	support PR statement explaining number of AQF level 3 units or above to select Should RGRPSH308 Provide first aid and emergency care for horses or other equines be added to the electives?	The revised draft unit reflects the decisions taken in the validation meeting as suggested. RGRPSH308 not included in qualification, it can be imported under the packaging rules if needed.

Summary of feedback on draft qualification ACM40921 Certificate IV in Equine Services

Comments related to Core Units

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, VIC 	When it comes to Cert IV, I believe <i>ACMINF302 Follow equine biosecurity and infection control procedures</i> could be replaced by <i>ACMINF401 Oversee site biosecurity and infection controls working with animals</i> . The outcome of the Cert IV is people who run businesses or work for companies where they may be interacting with individuals in their travels who have nothing in place to follow but the practitioner can ensure site biosecurity and infection controls are in place while they are working as any of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fitness and performance trainer Horse educator Gear fitter and checker 	Thank you for the feedback. ACMINF302 was selected for the core in this qualification as some of the target audience will be sole traders/contractors with no responsibility for overseeing a team or property which is covered in ACMINF401. ACMINF401 is an elective which can be selected for those with the relevant responsibilities e.g. head groom.

Comments related to Elective Units – General Comments

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, VIC 	Electives ACMEQU212: Not sure why a unit required for entry into the qualification is included as an elective. ACMEQU313: As above - Not sure why a unit required for entry into the qualification is included as an elective.	Thank you for the feedback. Repeated units deleted from electives.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, QLD & NSW 	add clipping specialisation with clipping unit, add prerequisites Move BSBWHS414 from group A to group E, add in SISOEQU007 to Group E and its prerequisites	Thank you for the feedback. Adopted new Clipping specialisation, Elective group E. Moved BSBWHS414 from group A to group E. Added suggested unit and prerequisites.

General Qualification comments

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, VIC 	<p>An issue I wish to draw to your attention in the equine sector that is raising its head and should potentially be introduced to the course at Cert IV and Diploma level is Social Licence to Operate.</p> <p>Social licence to operate</p> <p>Including this issue in a subject at AQF 4 - 5 would be an appropriate level as these people are at management level and able to influence. I believe this to be an important aspect of education in our digital/social media savvy society.</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. It has been referred to the Industry Engagement Manager for future consideration. At this stage a KE point on social licencing has been created:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> overview of concept of social licence to operate <p>It has been added to the following units:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ACMEQU414 <i>Manage horses to meet sport event requirements</i> - ACMEQU415 <i>Relate equine musculoskeletal system to conformation and movement</i> - ACMEQU416 <i>Manage presentation of horses for sale or show</i> - ACMEQU503 <i>Manage international opportunities for horse</i> - ACMEQU505 <i>Manage fitness in horses</i> - ACMEQU512 <i>Manage safe work practices in a horse establishment.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, VIC 	<p>Entry requirements:</p> <p>Sentence needs rewording for clarity. Maybe it could be 'Entry into this qualification is open to individuals who have:</p> <p>Bullet 1a: <i>ACMEQU212 Handle horses safely</i> is the prerequisite for the other two required units - ACMEQU306 and ACMEQU313. It is not clear how the other three units listed in the first dot point could be used as they are not listed as a prerequisite for either ACMEQU306 or ACMEQU313. - i.e. would need ACMEQU212. Requires clarification.</p> <p>bullet 2: Second dot point needs to be clear to training providers about the specifics of what is required '...equivalent skills and knowledge acquired through relevant industry experience'.</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback.</p> <p>Adopted, entry requirements updated, advice and references to similar units to ACMEQU212 moved to Companion Volume Implementation Guide.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, QLD & NSW 	<p>Description add: head groom/head stable hand</p> <p>PR change electives to: 'at least 1 and up to 2 units from Group A'</p> <p>'up to 7 units from Groups B to E'.</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback.</p> <p>Adopted suggestions, changed PR.</p>

Summary of feedback on draft qualification ACM50421 Diploma of Equine Management

General Qualification comments

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, VIC 	<p>Entry requirements: Sentence needs rewording for clarity. Maybe it could be 'Entry into this qualification is open to individuals who have: Bullet 1a: <i>ACMEQU212 Handle horses safely</i> is the prerequisite for the other two required units - ACMEQU306 and ACMEQU313. It is not clear how the other three units listed in the first dot point could be used as they are not listed as a prerequisite for either ACMEQU306 or ACMEQU313. - i.e. would need ACMEQU212. Requires clarification.</p> <p>bullet 2: Second dot point needs to be clear to training providers about the specifics of what is required '...equivalent skills and knowledge acquired through relevant industry experience'.</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. Adopted, entry requirements updated, references to similar units to ACMEQU212 moved to Companion Volume Implementation Guide. Removed duplicated units from Electives.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry Association, National RTO, NSW 	<p>Include further explanation of competency in user guide/imp guide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> have relevant equivalent documented experience acquired through work in an equine workplace or personal participation in equine disciplines/activities covering skills and knowledge to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> interact with and safely handle a range of horses of different classes, life stages and temperaments follow workplace health and safety policies and procedures in industries that use horses, including hazard identification, and risk assessment and control provide routine care for horses, including grooming, basic trimming, rugging, feeding, basic turnout and monitoring of horse welfare. 	<p>Thank you for the feedback. Adopted, further information on entry requirements added to Companion Volume Implementation Guide.</p>

Summary of feedback on draft qualification ACM50521 Diploma of Equine Allied Health

Comments related to Elective Units – Group A Equine Dental Technician

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry, WA 	<p>Would be happy if we could insist on this for dentistry.... Has been made a Diploma after all. ACMEQU417 Advise on horse nutritional needs ACMEQU420 Fit and adjust bits and bridles</p> <p>Add in these recommendations to the User Guide p23</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback <i>ACMEQU417 Advise on horse nutritional needs</i> is mandatory for equine dental technicians <i>ACMEQU420 Fit and adjust bits and bridles</i> is recommended in the User Guide as a preferred elective.</p>

Summary of feedback on draft Skill Sets

ACMSS00015 Equine Emergency Shoe Replacement Skill Set

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTOs, NSW, QLD, WA, NT Industry, NSW & ACT Industry Associations, WA & National 	<p>Supported, no changes.</p>	<p>Thank you for the support.</p>

ACMSS00037 Incorporate Safety When Instructing Learners in Horse Handling Skill Set

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTOs, NSW, QLD, WA, NT Industry, NSW & ACT Industry Associations, WA & National 	<p>Supported, no changes.</p>	<p>Thank you for the support.</p>

ACMSS00038 Handling Horses Safely Skill Set

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTOs, NSW, QLD, WA, NT Industry, NSW & ACT 	<p>Supported, no changes.</p>	<p>Thank you for the support.</p>

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry Associations, WA & National 		

ACMSS00039 Prepare To Work Safely Around Horses Skill Set

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTOs, NSW, QLD, WA, NT Industry, NSW & ACT Industry Associations, WA & National 	Supported, no changes.	Thank you for the support.

ACMSS00040 Horse Groom Functions Coordinator Skill Set

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTOs, NSW, QLD, WA & NT Industry, NSW & ACT Industry Associations, WA & National 	Missing safety? Add in as entry requirements or add to skill set requirements: ACMEQU313 Work safely in equine workplaces ACMEQU212 Handle horses safely.	Thank you for the feedback. Entry requirements have been added to the Skill Set: 'individuals must have achieved or be able to demonstrate competency in the following units of competency or their equivalent: • <i>ACMEQU212 Handle horses safely</i> • <i>ACMEQU313 Work safely in equine workplaces</i> '.

ACMSS00041 Transport Horses by Road Skill Set

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTOs, NSW, QLD, WA, NT Industry, NSW & ACT Industry Associations, WA & National 	Target Group - add in 'or livestock transport company'.	The revised draft reflects the decisions taken in the validation meeting as suggested.

Summary of feedback on draft Units of Competency

Safety

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
ACMEQU212 Handle horses safely		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, WA 	<p>Yes with minor changes: PC2.2 'check suitability': Confirm suitability - this should be checked by the supervisor PC3.6: Believe this will be difficult to achieve in many work places as horses are not kept in groups to be caught or released. AC bullet 2c 'hander': spelling mistake</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. PC2.2 - has been changed to check and confirm, to cover both the worker's and supervisor's parts in this outcome. PC3.6 - SMEWG advised that 'groups' needs to remain because this is important for worker and horse safety. A group has been defined as 'at least 2 horses' in the PE to make this easier to assess. The typo in the AC has been fixed.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, NT Industry, NT 	<p>My concern with the changes is that they are directed and built around a "racing" environment, this takes away the ability for our industry or any other industry to complete these units. Which to be fair they have their own Qualls and training packaging that can be industry specific and cover what they would like. I find the updates to the new horse care package are not basic enough to cover all industries.</p> <p>Currently we have. (with my enrolled unit searching skills **moderate skills**) and we are one RTO in NT and there is at least 3 others. 157 enrolled in ACMEQU205 – apply knowledge, as this is the pre-requisite it forecasts the amount of students that should travel through the chain of horse units we deliver – below is obviously students that have made it along the line so far, but these will change throughout the year.</p> <p>83 enrolled in ACMEQU202 43 enrolled in ACMHBR203 35 enrolled in ACMEQU206 16 enrolled in AHCLSK218</p> <p>See below concerns I have with changes and alternatives if I can think of some. APP & PE 'nose twitch' etc: I'd like to note how contradictive it is to have an application that: The horses being handled must be calm, consistent and obedient horses educated for the relevant activity. Undertaking routine work under supervision and apply knowledge and judgement to predictable issues when handling</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback.</p> <p>The ACM IRC considered the validation feedback received regarding the use of restraints (twitches, hobble and crush) in the PE of <i>ACMEQU212 Handle horses safely</i>. After considering the feedback and a range of industry practices, the IRC have voted in support of keeping these restraints.</p> <p>Based on further discussions held with industry and in light of the ACM IRC decision, the PE has been revised and now offers the choice to not use nose and skin twitching:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 'safely and effectively applied a restraint to horse, using at least one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> hobble nose twitch skin twitch horse crush fitted an anti-rearing bit fitted a bit and bridle fitted and used appropriately a nose chain to headcollar'. <p>Comment on calm, obedient and consistent horses. These horse restraint skills are important and will be required of most horse care workers at some time in their career. The SMEWG has advised that it is better to learn and demonstrate these skills on calm, obedient horses than to not develop these skills. The decision on the horse category relates back to the 2017 Safety in Equine Training Project linked to the ASQA Strategic Report 2015 into training in horse related units. We are aware of the inconsistency, but it is necessary to use this</p>

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues	Consideration and Proposed Resolution
<p>horses.</p> <p>Yet performance specifies application of skin twitches , hobbles and crushes ??? Fitting anti rearing bits ?</p> <p>Does this not remove the predictability from the activity – considering you can never be sure/confident how a horse will react to these activities? Having this in the performance leaves a very large space for a WHS and Welfare risks to intrude, there will be damage to horses and handlers, you cannot twitch horses without a high risk of injury to horse and handler? Nor is there a need for a horse crush in our industry ? some of our station work horse plants can be up to 150 horses, yet they do not require a crush or anti rearing bit?</p> <p>On my run alone I visit 7 stations, which all use horses and do not twitch, hobble, or crush ?? so where and why should it be a national requirement for performance? Where is it used?? Why? Are these the type of environments and workspaces that need to be looked at for welfare purposes? Questions that this UOC and assessment requirements raise to me.</p> <p>Why are students of a level 2 required to carry out activities that are re-actions/methods/tools to manage a man-made problem ? this does not have anything to do with basic handling and identification of behaviour for a calm obedient horse ?. Which if the horses were assessed correctly in the first place a level two handler would not be anywhere near a horse with such advanced behavioural fractures – caused by human error. Its not related to handling the horse its dealing with bad habits & vices. These tools and methods are a placement of pain in a particular area of the horse to increase control where lack of control was once held, which I do not take away that yes some industries may/may not require it, ours does not and the UOC is national not industry specific.</p> <p>I just need a bit more information to understand why you would have to fit these bridles with bits onto a horse when handling? Why do you need to a fit a bridle on a horse you shouldn't be</p>	<p>category of horse to help ensure the safety of learners during training and assessment of the unit.</p>

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues	Consideration and Proposed Resolution
<p>riding because you're not up to that unit? That's like saying you should saddle it as well?</p> <p>Is this not covered in walk, trot, canter ?</p> <p>It is stated across the UOC and assessment requirements that the handler must identify risks and hazards when handling and then in the next sentence they should be able to put them in a crush, twitch, hobbles and bridle to control the horse. Sorry but to me it's been highlighted that the horses being used to carry out the assessments are not quiet or obedient and that a level 2 handler should not be exposed to such activities.</p> <p>My thoughts on an alternative.</p> <p>Was,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Knowledge of vices and undesirable behaviours. 2. Common methods and tools used to manage vices and undesirable behaviour. 3. Changing the unit level to 4 - There is no safe environment where performing those activities to a horse is safe with a level 2 handler. The handler would have to be experienced and confident enough to change their approach or reaction pending the reaction from the horse. <p>With all of that said about the twitching, crush, hobble, raring bridle and bits It's not that I don't have the skill myself to deliver, I feel comfortable with myself to carry out those activities, by all means but I do not find it safe for level 2 students and quiet old horses. Its just not good enough and needs to be looked over again, because I raised these points in the first draft and was obviously over looked, happy for those who can explain it to me to ring and let me know a little bit more.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RTO, NT <p>Not Supported: PE bullet 5: Why should a twitch be applied to an already "obedient" "controlled" horse? As it says in the application, this unit is for workers who undertake routine work under supervision. So if it is a person under supervision what are they doing near a horse that requires a twitch?</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. The ACM IRC considered the validation feedback received regarding the use of restraints (twitches, hobble and crush) in the PE of <i>ACMEQU212 Handle horses safely</i>. After considering the feedback and a range of industry practices, the IRC have voted in support of keeping these restraints.</p>

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues	Consideration and Proposed Resolution
<p>bullet 6: These bits are not used in our industry. Also from my knowledge, I would think this bit is not commonly used outside of the racing industry.</p> <p>Also back to the point before about the animal being "obedient", why would a horse of this nature be fitted with an anti-rearing bit?</p> <p>KE bullet 8d: Why would a twitch be used if the use of safe and low stress horse handling practices are being used?</p>	<p>Based on further discussions held with industry and in light of the ACM IRC decision, the PE has been revised and now offers the choice to not use nose and skin twitching:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'safely and effectively applied a restraint to horse, using at least one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hobble • nose twitch • skin twitch • horse crush • fitted an anti-rearing bit • fitted a bit and bridle • fitted and used appropriately a nose chain to headcollar'. <p>PE bullet 6 - The purpose of the PE is to demonstrate the individual has the skills to safely fit the bit. It can be carried out in the context of preparing a horse for riding if the RTO chooses to. There is an option to have an anti-rearing bit OR a bridle with a bit, which covers most equine workplaces.</p> <p>Comment on calm, obedient and consistent horses. These horse restraint skills are important and will be required of most horse care workers at some time in their career. The SMEWG has advised that it is better to learn and demonstrate these skills on calm, obedient horses than to not develop these skills. The decision on the horse category relates back to the 2017 Safety in Equine Training Project linked to the ASQA Strategic Report 2015 into training in horse related units. We are aware of the inconsistency, but it is necessary to use this category of horse to help ensure the safety of learners during training and assessment of the unit.</p> <p>The SMEWG advised to retain twitches in the KE. Twitches are used for several reasons and are also used when other restraints are not available or possible.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RTO, NT <p>Not Supported: PE bullet 4: define safe knot? should this be an industry standard- quick release knot? bullet 5: I queried this with a local vet, her response was; nose twitches are not common practice and definitely not carried out by inexperienced horseman. *sedation has replaced the use of a nose twitch for several reasons. a) twitching if carried out incorrectly can cause nerve damage to the animals nose and may cause drooping of the lip</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. PE bullet 4: Safe knot has been left flexible to allow for a range of knots</p> <p>PE bullet 5: The ACM IRC considered the validation feedback received regarding the use of restraints (twitches, hobble and crush) in the PE of <i>ACMEQU212 Handle horses safely</i>. After considering the feedback and a range of industry practices, the IRC have voted in support of keeping these restraints.</p>

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<p>or lip spasms therefore becomes a welfare issue b) it is not safe practice as the amount of nerves the twitch touches can cause horse to react dangerously, thus being a WHS issue advice given was nose twitching was not an action to be carried out by inexperienced persons.</p> <p>Leading to, if the horses being handled are calm, consistent and obedient why is the use of a twitch relevant. Perhaps this point may be better suited to knowledge evidence only.</p> <p>Bullet 5a: how is this expected to be carried out? does the twitching, hobbling and placing horse in crush get carried out on a quiet, calm and consistent horse? for what purpose? will this not create bad habits and behaviours? again would this be more beneficial in knowledge evidence only both from a welfare and safety point of view?</p> <p>bullet 6: is there a need for a bit in a horses mouth when the horse is not being ridden?</p> <p>KE bullet 4: would this not be considered part of PPE, risks and risk controls?</p>	<p>Based on further discussions held with industry and in light of the ACM IRC decision, the PE has been revised and now offers the choice to not use nose and skin twitching:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'safely and effectively applied a restraint to horse, using at least one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hobble • nose twitch • skin twitch • horse crush • fitted an anti-rearing bit • fitted a bit and bridle • fitted and used appropriately a nose chain to headcollar'. <p>Bullet 6: The purpose of the PE is to demonstrate the individual has the skills to safely fit the bit. It can be carried out in the context of preparing a horse for riding if the RTO chooses to.</p> <p>KE bullet 4 relates to horse' responses to people, people clothing and behaviour, which is different to Bullet 5 Risk minimisation and Bullet 6 PPE, but there is nothing to stop these items being covered in an integrated way.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RTO, NT <p>Not Supported: PE bullet 5: If the student is required to use a calm, consistent and obedient horse, why is a twitch necessary? and would a twitch not make the horse then unpredictable?</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback.</p> <p>The ACM IRC considered the validation feedback received regarding the use of restraints (twitches, hobble and crush) in the PE of <i>ACMEQU212 Handle horses safely</i>. After considering the feedback and a range of industry practices, the IRC have voted in support of keeping these restraints.</p> <p>Based on further discussions held with industry and in light of the ACM IRC decision, the PE has been revised and now offers the choice to not use nose and skin twitching:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'safely and effectively applied a restraint to horse, using at least one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hobble • nose twitch • skin twitch • horse crush • fitted an anti-rearing bit • fitted a bit and bridle • fitted and used appropriately a nose chain to headcollar'.

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, WA 	<p>Support with Minor changes: PE bullet 5a: agree - this is not ethical in not needed. Should remain in knowledge. I personally would not allow an inexperienced person (this is the pre-req unit after all) to hobble either as accidents happen unless horse is well trained to hobbles. Personally haven't seen hobbles used for over 30 years in any equine industry I have been involved with other than breeding mares and wouldn't have an inexperienced person helping with that!</p> <p>bullet 6: don't have a problem here as states anti-rearing OR bridle - personally think it is a skill well learnt as many may choose to go into racing as a career.</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. The ACM IRC considered the validation feedback received regarding the use of restraints (twitches, hobble and crush) in the PE of <i>ACMEQU212 Handle horses safely</i>. After considering the feedback and a range of industry practices, the IRC have voted in support of keeping these restraints.</p> <p>Based on further discussions held with industry and in light of the ACM IRC decision, the PE has been revised and now offers the choice to not use nose and skin twitching:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 'safely and effectively applied a restraint to horse, using at least one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> hobble nose twitch skin twitch horse crush fitted an anti-rearing bit fitted a bit and bridle fitted and used appropriately a nose chain to headcollar'. <p>Bullet 6 - Your support for anti-rearing bits or bridles is noted.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, NT 	<p>Not supported: pre-requisite: This is a good thing PC2.2 (1001 Confirm suitability - this should be checked by the supervisor): Agree with 1001 - this should be confirm suitability PC3.5 (and doorways): This should be and/or doorways. Many workplaces using this unit do not have "stables" or barns and would not have suitable or safe doorways to perform this task PC3.6: Many workplaces do not catch, lead and release horses within a group, they either do not keep them in groups, or they separate them for catch and release because catching, leading and releasing within a group is a potentially dangerous and therefore advanced handling activity PC4.2 (to minimise): to control and minimise</p> <p>PE bullet 4 (safe knot): Define safe knot. Industry standard quick release knot? How lead tie? Does it need to be above the horses withers? To a solid, immovable object? bullet 5: Absolutely not, I am an extremely experienced person who has also worked overseas with high level performance horses and I myself have only used a twitch on a handful of occasions, it is not a safe and low stress horse handling</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback.</p> <p>PC2.2 - has been changed to check and confirm, to cover both the worker's and supervisor's parts in this outcome.</p> <p>PC 3.5 - Suggestion adopted and 'doorways' has been replaced with 'narrow openings'</p> <p>PC3.6 - SMEWG advised that 'groups' needs to remain because this is important for worker and horse safety. A group has been defined as 'at least 2 horses' in the PE to make this easier to assess.</p> <p>PC 4.2 - Suggestion adopted and the wording has been changed to 'control or minimise'.</p> <p>PE bullet 4: Safe knot has been left flexible to allow for a range of knots.</p> <p>PE bullet 5: The ACM IRC considered the validation feedback received regarding the use of restraints (twitches, hobble and crush) in the PE of <i>ACMEQU212 Handle horses safely</i>. After considering the feedback and a range of industry practices, the IRC have voted in support of keeping</p>

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<p>technique/practice, no way known this should be in a level 2 unit, it should be at level 4. Hobbles should be at level 3, and perhaps the skin twitch at level 3</p> <p>bullet 5a: No. As per previous comment</p> <p>bullet 5b: No. As per previous comment. This should be at level 3, potentially very dangerous for all with inexperienced people. And what sort of hobble?</p> <p>bullet 5c: Many workplaces do not have a horse crush and are too far from town to access one</p> <p>bullet 6: Good that it says OR However - why is the horse being fitted with a bit if it not being ridden?</p> <p>Bullet 6 (possible response to 1616): Agree wholeheartedly - These bits are not used in our industry. This bit is not commonly used outside of the racing industry. Also back to the point before about the animal being "obedient", why would a horse of this nature be fitted with an anti-rearing bit?</p> <p>bullet 9: What defines an "Incident"?</p>	<p>these restraints.</p> <p>Based on further discussions held with industry and in light of the ACM IRC decision, the PE has been revised and now offers the choice to not use nose and skin twitching:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'safely and effectively applied a restraint to horse, using at least one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hobble • nose twitch • skin twitch • horse crush • fitted an anti-rearing bit • fitted a bit and bridle • fitted and used appropriately a nose chain to headcollar'. <p>PE bullet 6 - The purpose of the PE is to demonstrate the individual has the skills to safely fit the bit. It can be carried out in the context of preparing a horse for riding if the RTO chooses to. There is an option to have an anti-rearing bit OR a bit and bridle, which covers most equine workplaces.</p> <p>Bullet 9: Incident can be anything that posed a safety risk to the worker, horse, other people and other horses.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RTO, NT <p>KE bullet 8d: Why are twitches and crushes being used on safe, suitable, obedient horses being handled using safe and low stress handling methods?</p> <p>Teaching inexperienced people about twitches only encourages them to attempt to perform a dangerous procedure</p> <p>bullet 15a-e: Don't agree with skin and nose twitches and chemical restraints being here unless it is the barest knowledge that these things do exist at level 4 and above. Knowledge that there is such a thing as an actual horse crush is not a bad thing, and that crushes for other species are for the most part not suitable for horses at all</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback.</p> <p>The SMEWG advised that this KE is required to support the outcomes of this unit, which is vital to underpin safe horse handling practices and horse welfare.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RTO, NT <p>Support with minor change:</p> <p>PC2.2 (check suitability): This is definitely not the responsibility of any students we assess at this level.</p> <p>PC3.5 (through doorways): Agree with 1001 and 1620. (1001 - Believe this will be difficult to achieve in many work places as horses are not kept in groups to be caught or released. 1620 - This should be and/or doorways. Many workplaces using this unit do not have "stables" or barns and would not have suitable</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback.</p> <p>PC2.2 - has been changed to check and confirm, to cover both the worker's and supervisor's parts in this outcome.</p> <p>PC 3.5 - Suggestion adopted and 'doorways' has been replaced with 'narrow openings'.</p>

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<p>or safe doorways to perform this task) PC3.6: Catching, leading and releasing in a group of horses poses a large safety risk even to experienced handlers.</p> <p>PE 3 horses: Why do they have to be seen with 3 different horses? If you can competently and safely handle 2 consistently calm and obedient horses you can handle 20 in my eyes. Some students in our workplaces are not assigned more than 2 horses. bullet 3c: This appears very racing orientated to me. bullet 4b: What is considered a restricted space? And why would you want a level 2 student exposed to the possible danger of a restricted space? bullet 5: A big NO to all of these at a cert 2 level for one thing! Why on earth would a nice quiet horse require either of the twitches. Crushes are a thing of the past in our industry and hobbles are not a necessary thing.</p> <p>KE bullet 8d: Strongly agree with 1620. (1620 - Why are twitches and crushes being used on safe, suitable, obedient horses being handled using safe and low stress handling methods? Teaching inexperienced people about twitches only encourages them to attempt to perform a dangerous procedure) bullet 12: Isn't release the same as reward?</p>	<p>PC3.6 – the SMEWG advised that 'groups' needs to remain because this is important for worker and horse safety. A group has been defined as 'at least 2 horses' in the PE to make this easier to assess.</p> <p>PE 3 horses: The SMEWG advised that 3 different horses are required to provide evidence of consistency performance, especially as each horse will vary in behaviour.</p> <p>Bullet 3c: The SMEWG advised that this outcome is required across horse sectors, and therefore needs to stay. Bullet 4b: Restricted space has been replaced with a confined space. It has been included to ensure a worker can handle a horse safely in a situation where the risk of a crush is increased. The ACM IRC considered the validation feedback received regarding the use of restraints (twitches, hobble and crush) in the PE of <i>ACMEQU212 Handle horses safely</i>. After considering the feedback and a range of industry practices, the IRC have voted in support of keeping these restraints.</p> <p>Based on further discussions held with industry and in light of the ACM IRC decision, the PE has been revised and now offers the choice to not use nose and skin twitching:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'safely and effectively applied a restraint to horse, using at least one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hobble • nose twitch • skin twitch • horse crush • fitted an anti-rearing bit • fitted a bit and bridle • fitted and used appropriately a nose chain to headcollar'. <p>KE bullet 8d and 16: Knowledge of risk controls, including various horse restraints are important for worker and horse safety, and can be used to help prevent the use of unsafe practices.</p>

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<p>bullet 16: These are not things that a person at this level should learn about as they may try to implement them.</p>	<p>Bullet 12: Pressure release is different to a reward. These will be defined in the Companion Volume Implementation Guide. bullet 16: Knowledge of 'features, purpose, effects, reactions and animal welfare considerations of common horse restraints' are important for worker and horse safety and can be used to help prevent the use of unsafe practices. The SMEWG advised to retain this KE.</p>
<p>• RTO, NT</p> <p>Not supported: PE bullet 5: Twitching a horse should be taken out as it goes against the Animal Welfare Act 1999: Part 2, Division 1: 7.1.e and f. the animal is handled only in ways that are appropriate and is confined or restrained only in ways that are appropriate. "something is not appropriate for an animal if: it causes, or is likely to cause the animal unnecessary suffering"</p> <p>How is twitching a horse a low stress handling technique? it can cause unpredictable horse behavior, putting our students at risk AND can cause nerve damage to the horse. This poses a massive animal welfare problem and if our industry leaders caught wind that we were delivering this in our education we would be highly dis-credited. Where is the horsemanship in this? Handling a horse in this way does not demonstrate good horsemanship and sets a very poor standard for our students.</p> <p>If applying a nose twitch is something that other industries feel strongly about, have it in knowledge, NOT performance.</p> <p>Bullet 6: This does not apply to the northern pastoral industry. Why do we need to fit an anti-rearing bit? Yes, we use a bridle to ride, but this should not be in a handle unit. A halter is all that should be required.</p> <p>KE bullet 8d: This is not a low stress horse handling technique. Strongly agree with 1619, 1616.</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. The ACM IRC considered the validation feedback received regarding the use of restraints (twitches, hobble and crush) in the PE of <i>ACMEQU212 Handle horses safely</i>. After considering the feedback and a range of industry practices, the IRC have voted in support of keeping these restraints.</p> <p>Based on further discussions held with industry and in light of the ACM IRC decision, the PE has been revised and now offers the choice to not use nose and skin twitching:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'safely and effectively applied a restraint to horse, using at least one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hobble • nose twitch • skin twitch • horse crush • fitted an anti-rearing bit • fitted a bit and bridle • fitted and used appropriately a nose chain to headcollar'. <p>When nose twitching is used correctly for short periods, it does not cause unnecessary suffering or create animal welfare issues. The RSPCA Animal Welfare Science Update – Issue 57, July 2017 reported on a study undertaken at an equestrian school in the USA comparing ear twitching to nose (lip) twitching. The study concluded "lip twitching resulted in reduction of stress during the first 5 minutes of treatment, supporting the notion that lip twitches induce an analgesic affect." The authors of the study concluded that "lip twitching may be used for up to 5 minutes, but chemical restraints should be considered for longer periods".</p> <p>PE bullet 6 - The purpose of the PE is to demonstrate the individual has the skills to safely fit the bit. It can be carried out in the context of preparing a horse for riding if the RTO chooses to. There is an option to have an anti-rearing bit OR a bit and bridle, which covers most equine workplaces.</p> <p>KE bullet 8d: The SMEWG advised that the use of twitching when applied</p>

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		correctly for short periods, fits with safe and low stress horse handling techniques. There are situations when a nose or skin twitch must be used to calm and restrain a horse, because other restraints are either not available or practical. For example - a horse is injured in the field that requires first aid. If the techniques have not been trained and assessed, there is a risk of harm to the worker and/or the horse.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTOs, NT Industry Association, NT 	<p>PC2.2 change 'check' to 'check and/or confirm'</p> <p>PC3.5 change 'doorways' to 'narrow opening' possibility to add this information into the Implementation Guide as well.</p> <p>PC3.6 change to 'Catch, lead and release a horse in the company of other horses' - again use IMP guide to explain this is around at least 1 other horse</p> <p>PE - ok with safe knot</p> <p>Bullet 5 - move this to KE only, NT do not use these restraints. Too high level for 2.</p> <p>Bullet 6 - ok with this as it is 'or'</p> <p>KE - put in the restraints here only and add ear twitch</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback.</p> <p>PC 2.2 and PC 3.5 - Suggestions adopted.</p> <p>PC3.6 – the SMEWG advised that 'groups' needs to remain because this is important for worker and horse safety. A group has been defined as 'at least 2 horses' in the PE to make this easier to assess.</p> <p>The ACM IRC considered the validation feedback received regarding the use of restraints (twitches, hobble and crush) in the PE of <i>ACMEQU212 Handle horses safely</i>. After considering the feedback and a range of industry practices, the IRC have voted in support of keeping these restraints.</p> <p>Based on further discussions held with industry and in light of the ACM IRC decision, the PE has been revised and now offers the choice to not use nose and skin twitching:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 'safely and effectively applied a restraint to horse, using at least one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> hobble nose twitch skin twitch horse crush fitted an anti-rearing bit fitted a bit and bridle fitted and used appropriately a nose chain to headcollar'. <p>KE - Restraints kept as suggested and ear twitch added.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, NSW 	<p>Strongly propose to remove applying restraints from this unit and make these skills a stand alone Level 3 or 4 unit "Apply restraints to horses" or give the option for the listed restraints to be assessed in relevant units that include horse handling activities where restraints MAY be required. We also propose to train and assess individuals on the restraints used within that workplace and that the horses are accustomed to and be given</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback.</p> <p>The ACM IRC considered the validation feedback received regarding the use of restraints (twitches, hobble and crush) in the PE of <i>ACMEQU212 Handle horses safely</i>. After considering the feedback and a range of industry practices, the IRC have voted in support of keeping these restraints.</p>

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<p>the option as proposed in our previous feedback. Having it proposed to be assessed nose twitching 3 times indicates that it is deemed a more essential restraint to apply then the others listed but it has been a consistent suggestion from others that train and assess these skills to have it removed.</p> <p>Applying the restraints but in particular a nose twitch is not a suitable or a necessary handling skill for a level 2 candidate. Nose twitching a horse is not something we feel an employer should expect of an individual who has not had extensive horse handling experience and opportunities to observe numerous horses being restrained over a significant period of time. We feel candidates who have little or no previous horse experience require extensive experience and training of consistently remaining in the safe horse handling zones in generic horse handling skills first (catch,lead,rug,groom,wash,lunge) before the use of restraints particularly nose twitching is assessed.</p> <p>We felt cleaning out a horses feet or loading a horse on a float a more common practice and they have now been removed with Load and unload horses now a stand alone unit. Having a stand alone unit for restraints would allow for individuals who will be undertaking this skill in workplaces to elect this unit when they have extensive opportunity to observe this practice taking place over an extended period of time and have developed confidence and consistent safe practice in routine horse handling skills first.</p> <p>We feel the skills of groom, rug, cleaning out feet more suited to be added to this pre req unit but do understand they are in the core units.</p> <p>In the operation of a registered stud with over 120 horses on site, including access to a equine specialist vet and contractors it is only a common practice to nose twitch when mares are being covered during breeding season or undertaken by our contractor for freeze branding. Our trainers have extensive experience in applying nose twitches to cover mares during breeding season and a nose twitch is deemed a last resort in our clipping procedures and where safe and suitable the lesser amount of restraint is used first before resorting to the nose twitch and include those to be assessed in the unit Check and treat horses. We are aware that it may be common practice in</p>	<p>Based on further discussions held with industry and in light of the ACM IRC decision, the PE has been revised and now offers the choice to not use nose and skin twitching:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'safely and effectively applied a restraint to horse, using at least one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hobble • nose twitch • skin twitch • horse crush • fitted an anti-rearing bit • fitted a bit and bridle • fitted and used appropriately a nose chain to headcollar'. <p>Demonstration of use of restraints is also included in the PE of <i>ACMEQU305 Implement a horse health program.</i></p>

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<p>select workplaces where there are extensive numbers of horses are being restrained for clipping, breeding or health care procedures but we still do not see it a necessary skill for a newcomer to handling horses to be expected to be assessed in a level 2 prerequisite unit.</p> <p>Our highly experienced freeze branding contractor who brands hundreds of horses annually including thoroughbreds across the NSW and Qld informs our students in demonstrations that nose twitching is one the most high risk handling skills to undertake and should be conducted by highly experienced horse handlers. If a nose twitch is a common use of restraint in a particular workplace we feel employers new to the industry or workplace would not be expected to undertake nose twitching until an employee has consistently demonstrated sound horse handling skills and they have observed this practice in this workplace and will be trained to undertake this more specialised skill adhering to this workplaces procedures. We don't feel it is a suitable task to expect of someone who in the application of the unit is to "apply knowledge and judgement to solve predictable problems and undertake routine tasks under supervision".</p> <p>We train up to 50 students in the current Handle horses safely unit on site, some students coming in with previous horse experience but over half who are new to handling horses. We feel that nose twitching will impinge on students level of confidence, particularly those who are new to horse handling to progressing through this unit when the fundamental skills that they will require when first being employed will be the skills of catch, tie up, lead, groom, saddle, bridle, wash, rug, clean out stalls, feed. As the skill of nose twitching requires a significant level of confidence to undertake and also the confidence for a candidate to remain focused, committed to the task and the agility to remain in the horses safe zone at all times if a horse reacts and attempts to moves away. Very similar to students undertaking intramuscular injections, there concern about hurting the horse can impinge of on how efficiently they commit to undertaking the procedure and administering injections is assessed in the level 3 units. These students require significant reassurance and verbal support through the training process and opportunities to practice the injection technique on a simulated object. Timing, feel, coordination and confidence to</p>	

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<p>apply a nose twitch and for those who have limited experience or no experience in handling horses or responding to their behaviour poses a high safety risk and unnecessarily affect their level of confidence at this stage of their training.</p> <p>As mentioned in previous feedback we feel training this skill on horses that do not react will only provide a false sense of security to handlers and observing this practice being undertaken on range of horses should be undertaken over an extensive period of time before handlers attempt this skill.</p> <p>It also poses a welfare issue for training this skill in large group training scenarios where nose twitching is to be assessed at a satisfactory level 3 times on 3 different horses and this does not include practising before assessment takes place.</p> <p>In the level 2 unit check and treat horses it deems simple restraint technique as a skin twitch, holding a leg up, halter and positioning of horses all more achievable and suitable than nose twitching and if restraints are to be left we feel these are more appropriate.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RTO, NT <p>PC1.2 (abnormal): What would be classified as 'abnormal' horse behaviour? Are we talking vices / injuries / illness? Could these behaviours be considered 'normal' responses to environment, history, injury, etc. Just getting some clarification for when we start writing/editing assessment kits.</p> <p>PC3.5 (doorways): Agree. Doorways is especially specific, noting many properties may not have 'doorways' as such.</p> <p>PC3.5 (amongst other horses): Should we just use the word 'among'?</p> <p>PC3.6: Agree change to 'in the company of other horses'.</p> <p>PC3.7: What is this including exactly? As I would read this as fitting a head collar / halter and lead, which is what's been specified earlier; is there a reason we've changed the language and are repeating the action, or am I misreading this? Have also noted below in Performance Evidence that an anti-rearing bridle or bridle with bit are required to be fitted - is that what this element is referring to?</p> <p>PC3.8: Maybe this could either be included earlier - eg. in Element 3.4 "catch, lead, tie up, lift fore and hind limbs and check horse's hooves, and release horse using safe and low stress handling techniques" OR could be written as, "with horse</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. PC1.2 - Abnormal has been removed from this PC.</p> <p>PC 3.5 - Suggestion adopted and 'doorways' has been replaced with 'narrow openings' as such.</p> <p>PC3.5 - Suggestion adopted word changed to 'among'.</p> <p>PC3.6 – the SMEWG advised that 'groups' needs to remain because this is important for worker and horse safety. A group has been defined as 'at least 2 horses' in the PE to make this easier to assess.</p> <p>PC3.7: Has been rewritten as – 'Apply suitable horse restraint techniques and/or equipment to secure and control horse for proposed activity' to make it more flexible for users and the specific task being undertaken.</p> <p>PC 3.7 does cover the PE to fit an anti-rearing bridle or bridle, as well as other horse restraints in the PE.</p>

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<p>safely secured, lift fore and hind limbs and check horse's hooves."</p> <p>FS Numeracy: Where do these numeracy components come into the elements? I can guess: distance/area for planning the job, safety in a group of horses/people, spatial awareness/safety zones, especially in confined spaces, etc, weight in terms of manual handling of equipment, temperature to assess weather risks, and time to plan the job. Just curious if that's the angle?</p> <p>PE bullet 2d (halter): Earlier specified a 'head collar' and here used the term 'halter' - should we stick with one term for consistency?</p> <p>bullet 3a (slow): Just wondering how often a beginner handler is going to be slowing a calm/consistent/obedient horse when leading? May be more likely to be encouraging the horse to speed up/walk a little faster. (Happy for this to stay as is; just a personal reflection on new handlers and the 'plodder' types of horses often used in their initial learning stages.)</p> <p>bullet 5: These may not be applicable to all situations, and some places may not want to twitch horses, and may not have access to a crush. Hobbles are the most likely piece of equipment to be used broadly.</p> <p>I'm not sure that at this AQF level students should/would be in situations where they need to twitch horses or put them in a crush?</p> <p>bullet 6: Anti-rearing bit applicable for students in the racing industry, but not common across all scenarios where ACMEQU2X12 will be assessed. Bridle with bit applicable in</p>	<p>PC3.8 is better as a stand alone PC to develop handling skills related to leg and hoof checks, which present their own safety risks.</p> <p>FS Numeracy: FS descriptors describe the LLN employment skills that are not explicit in the PCs, and the examples and rationales cited are valid.</p> <p>PE bullet 2d and bullet 8 (halter): Head collar has been changed to halter in PC 3.4 for consistency with the rest of the unit.</p> <p>Bullet 3a (slow): The SMEWG advised that these four cues are important skills for all horse handlers to demonstrate.</p> <p>The ACM IRC considered the validation feedback received regarding the use restraints (twitches, hobble and crush) in the PE of <i>ACMEQU212 Handle horses safely</i>. After considering the feedback and a range of industry practices, the IRC have voted in support of keeping these restraints.</p> <p>Based on further discussions held with industry and in light of the ACM IRC decision, the PE has been revised and now offers the choice to not use nose and skin twitching:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'safely and effectively applied a restraint to horse, using at least one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hobble • nose twitch • skin twitch • horse crush • fitted an anti-rearing bit • fitted a bit and bridle • fitted and used appropriately a nose chain to headcollar'. <p>PE bullet 6 - The purpose of the PE is to demonstrate the individual has the skills to safely fit the bit. It can be carried out in the context of preparing a horse for riding if the RTO chooses to. There is an option to</p>

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
	<p>most scenarios. bullet 8 (halter): As above - halter / head collar?</p>	<p>have an anti-rearing bit OR a bit and bridle, which covers most equine workplaces.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, VIC 	<p>PE bullet 3a (go, slow, turn and stop): Is this too specific for a range of methods?</p> <p>Bullet 5, 5a and 5b: Implementation issue regarding hobbling and twitching. This is an entry level qualification for learners using 'consistent and obedient horses educated for the relevant activity' (routine activities). According to the Code of Practice for the Welfare of Horses - Revision 1 (Victorian Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions, April 2019) twitching and hobbling are not the safe and low stress techniques that fit with PC 4.2 and therefore questionable for inclusion in PE. The Code of Practice for the Welfare of Horses - Revision 1 (DJPR, 2019, G10.1 pg. 15 and, G15.1 pg.22), indicates that the use of these techniques can cause 'severe reactions in horses'. This has the potential to put both the handler and horse, at risk of injury. RTOs would be unlikely to obtain animal ethics approval for these and related activities involving live animals based on animal welfare guidelines (Code of Practice) or in in terms of risks to students.</p> <p>Given this unit is a prerequisite for other units and a core in some of the revised qualifications, an implementation issue has the potential for wider impacts to the implementation of equine qualifications as reviewed. Suggest removing this item as PE.</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. PE bullet 3a: The SMEWG advised that these four cues are important skills for all horse handlers to demonstrate. The horse cues required in the PE will be referred to the SMEWG for consideration.</p> <p>PE bullet 5: The ACM IRC considered the validation feedback received regarding the use restraints (twitches, hobble and crush) in the PE of <i>ACMEQU212 Handle horses safely</i>. After considering the feedback and a range of industry practices, the IRC have voted in support of keeping these restraints.</p> <p>Based on further discussions held with industry and in light of the ACM IRC decision, the PE has been revised and now offers the choice to not use nose and skin twitching:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 'safely and effectively applied a restraint to horse, using at least one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> hobble nose twitch skin twitch horse crush fitted an anti-rearing bit fitted a bit and bridle fitted and used appropriately a nose chain to headcollar'. <p>A check of the Code of Practice shows that it states:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> G15.1 Restraint methods used on horses should always be the minimum necessary to carry out routine management procedures. Prolonged or overzealous use of restraints, such as nose-twitches, may cause severe reaction in many horses. S10.2 Horses must not be hobbled for continuous periods of more than 12 hours in any 24 hour period. <p>The advice from the Code of Practice is not in conflict with the unit outcomes or the PE.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTOs, WA, QLD, NSW, NT Industry, ACT 	<p>PC2.2 change to: 'check and confirm' PC3.5: Agree to narrow openings PC3.6 'group of horses': Define as 2 or more in PE PC3.7 reword to: apply suitable horse restraint techniques and/or equipment to secure and control horse for proposed</p>	<p>The revised draft unit reflects the decisions taken in the validation meeting as suggested.</p>

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry Associations, WA & National 	<p>activity PC4.1 agree to 'control or minimise' PE support 3 horses bullet 2d keep terminology as 'halter' bullet 3a keep in all response terms KE keep in horse restrains and add ear twitch define in user guide what a reward is</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry Association, NT 	<p>Performance Evidence Wording and inclusion of 'nose and skin twitch on horses as a restraint' is not best practice in the NT and is not suitable or safe for Certificate II learners or the horses.</p> <p>Employers advised that the inclusion of 'nose and skin twitching' will reduce the utilisation of ACM units suitable to their workforce skills.</p> <p>Recommendation: Inclusion of wording found suitable within the knowledge evidence section will provide learners with an understanding of the relevant skills.</p> <p>Noting skills are suitable for Certificate III or higher-level learners.</p> <p>Alternatively, change wording within the unit to 'apply suitable restraints to secure horse' will provide greater flexibility across other employers and jurisdictions.</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. The ACM IRC considered the validation feedback received regarding the use restraints (twitches, hobble and crush) in the PE of <i>ACMEQU212 Handle horses safely</i>. After considering the feedback and a range of industry practices, the IRC have voted in support of keeping these restraints.</p> <p>Based on further discussions held with industry and in light of the ACM IRC decision, the PE has been revised and now offers the choice to not use nose and skin twitching:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 'safely and effectively applied a restraint to horse, using at least one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> hobble nose twitch skin twitch horse crush fitted an anti-rearing bit fitted a bit and bridle fitted and used appropriately a nose chain to headcollar'.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, QLD 	<p>[RTO name] does not support the inclusion of applying a twitch in the Performance Evidence of unit <i>ACMEQU212 Handle horse safely</i>, as this is a prerequisite unit in an entry level certificate II, where graduates at this level are only required to apply knowledge and skills to demonstrate autonomy and limited judgement in structured and stable contexts and within narrow parameters.</p> <p>Above all other concerns, twitching is an unsafe practice to be attempted by an inexperienced student that has had little prior exposure to horse behaviour as anticipated within an entry level certificate II qualification. While twitching immobilizes the horse, it is also well-known that it is not uncommon for horses to show a post inhibitory rebound effect, that is, to suddenly panic explosively. With this knowledge, we believe the required task places inexperienced entry level students in a position of unacceptable risk.</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. The ACM IRC considered the validation feedback received regarding the use restraints (twitches, hobble and crush) in the PE of <i>ACMEQU212 Handle horses safely</i>. After considering the feedback and a range of industry practices, the IRC have voted in support of keeping these restraints.</p> <p>Based on further discussions held with industry and in light of the ACM IRC decision, the PE has been revised and now offers the choice to not use nose and skin twitching:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 'safely and effectively applied a restraint to horse, using at least one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> hobble nose twitch skin twitch

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues	Consideration and Proposed Resolution
<p>We accept in principle that the basic safety around horses criteria in the prerequisite unit can be co-trained, allowing the student to have an extended period of exposure to horse behaviour prior to being assessed for unit competency (mitigating the inexperience aspect). However, it must also be acknowledged, that the competent demonstration of the “Handle horses safely” unit should be achieved prior to allowing the student to undertake the more complex tasks required of the elective units (as is the intent of a prerequisite unit), and this should be achieved in a timely manner to allow for reasonable progression and completion of the qualification within the recommended AQF Volume of Learning guidelines. The suggestion that all units could be co-trained and awarded at the end of the course once a student obtained adequate experience to attempt the twitching requirement in the ‘Handle horses safely’ unit is not only defeative to the implied intent of a prerequisite unit, but is also not consistent with Clause 1.2 c) of the Standards for RTO’s 2015, as the students’ skills and knowledge are not recognised in proportion to the amount of training they have undertaken. In this scenario, if a student were to withdraw from the course halfway, or even up to three quarters of the way through the training but had not completed the twitch requirement, they could not be awarded a single unit of competency.</p> <p>While it is our preference that the practice of twitching is discouraged, if there is sufficient industry demand for the practice to be included in nationally recognised training, we would recommend and support it being placed in one of the alternatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In a certificate III or higher equine qualification • In a Non - prerequisite AQF level 3 Unit of Competency <p>[RTO name] cannot in good conscience facilitate the training and assessment requirements of ACMEQU212 if the twitching requirement is to remain in the proposed unit. In such a case, [RTO name] would regretfully not seek to add <i>ACM20221 Certificate II in Horse Care</i> to our scope of delivery to offer the nationally recognised training in Western Australia. This would be a very disappointing outcome given our efforts applied so far to promote the current Certificate II in horse care to potential students and the support we have been given by our industry contacts in facilitating quality training and opening employment pathways within the horse care industry.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • horse crush • fitted an anti-rearing bit • fitted a bit and bridle • fitted and used appropriately a nose chain to headcollar’. <p>Demonstration of use of restraints is also included in the PE of <i>ACMEQU305 Implement a horse health program</i>.</p>

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
	Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback for your consideration. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to be in contact.	
ACMEQU213 Follow safe work practices in equine industries		
• RTO, WA	Document approved in validation	Thank you for supporting the unit.
• RTO, NSW	Support with minor changes: KE bullet 1: with handle horses safely being a pre-req for this unit, why is this repeated?	Thank you for the feedback. The SMEWG advised to retain knowledge of horse behaviour in the KE of this unit, as it can be used to refresh this knowledge if required.
• RTOs, WA, QLD, NSW, NT • Industry, ACT • Industry Associations, WA & National	KE bullet 1: keep, happy with it to be re-visited.	Thank you for supporting the unit. The draft unit reflects the decisions taken in the validation meeting as suggested.
ACMEQU214 Prepare to work safely around horses		
• RTO, WA	Document approved in validation	Thank you for supporting the unit.
ACMEQU313 Work safely in equine workplaces		
• RTOs, WA, QLD, NSW & NT • Industry, ACT • Industry Associations, WA & National	supported no changes	Thank you for supporting the unit.
ACMEQU413 Work safely in providing equine services as a contractor		
• Industry, ACT • Industry Association, National • RTOs, NT, VIC & WA	Support - changes 'horses' to 'equines' in PE for consistency	Thank you for the support. Adopted minor edits - horse changed to equine for consistency.
ACMEQU423 Manage selection of horse for handler, rider or driver		

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry, ACT Industry Association, National RTOs, NT, VIC & WA 	<p>put information in IMP guide for outcomes of this unit to be explained if achieved only for matching a handler, or could be rider and handler.</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. Adopted suggestion, paragraph added to Companion Volume Implementation Guide. New text added to Application - These individuals need to have the skills and knowledge to assess requirements relevant to horse handling, riding or driving.</p>
ACMEQU512 Manage safe work practices in a horse establishment		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry Association, National RTO, NSW 	<p>Include PC on maintaining currency on latest trends etc for technology, equipment and practices for industry PC3.5 change 'Devise' to 'Review' KE bullet 5i: add in 'natural disasters'</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. Adopted suggested feedback. Added new PC1.2, PE and KE on Maintain knowledge of current trends, practices, technology and equipment related to safety in the equine industry.</p>

Certificates II & III General Horse Care

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
ACMEQU215 Provide daily care for horses		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, WA 	<p>Document approved in validation</p>	<p>Thank you for supporting the unit.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, NT 	<p>PE: Rules of assessment? Over a period of seven days, I raised this in the last review. You carry out training to the individual – knowledge and theory are discussed and then the student is assessed on the material. Why is this the only unit in the entire package that believes you can put a time frame on an assessment ? So the assessment takes 7 days to carry out? Why doesn't handle? Walk trot canter? If the training was done (which could have taken months of training? Why is the assessment 7 days? They can either</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. PE: The 7 day period has been included because environmental conditions and a horse's needs can change over that period, and the individual must respond appropriately to these changes. The 7 days do not have to be consecutive. The requirement to collect evidence over 7 days does not mean the assessor has to physically observe the individual every day for 7 days. Evidence can be collected in other ways such as via third party reports or video evidence.</p>

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues	Consideration and Proposed Resolution
<p>complete the assessment task or they cannot? if they cannot then the student is put back into training and then reassessed at a later point in which they can have 3 attempts. No other UOC has a time requirement, grades are based on the students' performance on the day of assessment.</p> <p>Its not flexible enough to deliver across different industries. Cleaning walls ? for stabling ? why does a horse have to be stables to provide daily care ?. Alternatively 1. Knowledge of hygiene and husbandry activities if horses were stabled.</p>	<p>To make the unit more flexible, a small horse enclosure has been provided as an alternative wherever there is reference to stables throughout the unit.</p> <p>KE: tools, equipment and procedures for cleaning and disinfecting stables is already included. The KE has been revised slightly to make it more flexible , as follows: '• cleaning and disinfecting stables or small horse enclosures, and for laying stable bedding or flooring materials'.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RTO, NT <p>Not Supported: APP (work environments may include stables, small enclosed areas, paddocks and yards.): contradicts dot point in knowledge regarding stables PE (period of seven days): by giving this unit a specified timeframe it becomes unachievable and unrealistic for assessment for those working in agricultural sectors where workplace assessment is not continual over a 7 period, rather intervals throughout the year. bullet 8-10: The application leads me to believe this unit may be applied to my industry using small yards and paddocks however performance evidence requires stables? KE bullet 13b: could this be a sub heading under zoonosis? bullet 13e: may need re wording? is this two seperate points? AC bullet 2b: this dot point contradicts the application information</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. To make the unit more flexible, a small horse enclosure has been provided as an alternative wherever there is reference to stables throughout the unit.</p> <p>PE: The 7 day period has been included because environmental conditions and a horse's needs can change over that period, and the individual must respond appropriately to these changes. The 7 days do not have to be consecutive.</p> <p>The requirement to collect evidence over 7 days does not mean the assessor has to physically observe the individual every day for 7 days. Evidence can be collected in other ways such as via third party reports or video evidence.</p> <p>KE Bullet 13 b: Suggestions adopted and minor edits made to these bullet points for clarity.</p> <p>AC has been made more flexible with the inclusion of small horse enclosures as alternative to stables.</p>

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues	Consideration and Proposed Resolution
<p>• RTO, NT</p> <p>Not Supported: APP: not all industry's rug horses and rugs would not be available at all training workplace locations.</p> <p>PC2.2: application imply use of small enclosed area or paddock can be used but this dot point would not allow for that?</p> <p>PC2.4: soiled bedding? not all industry's use bedding.</p> <p>PE bullet 3a (hay nets): hay nets are not at all delivery locations and could be considered industry specific. This could be difficult for many to deliver. bullet 6: Not all industry rug horses. rugs would not be available at workplace training locations. Bullets 8-10: Not all industry require stables to be fitted with bedding or have solid walls/ flooring. ie flooring could be natural (sand), walls could be rails and thus disinfecting is an issue. often rails are preferred in northern Australia due to issues related to temperature/ air flow. In these stables no bedding is added therefore no fresh bedding added, just fecal matter removed. AC bullet 2b: again this reads that they must use a stable rather than the earlier determined "work environment may include stable, small enclosed area, paddock and yard"?</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. APP and PE bullet 6: The unit has been revised to allow for horses not to be rugged, if there is no requirement to do so. It is noted however, that rugging horses is common across most equine workplaces, and that horses may be rugged with wet rugs if they become heat stressed. PC and PE have been revised allowing for flexibility: PC4.5 'Fit rug and other protective gear if required and according to environmental conditions and individual horse requirement'. PE 'groomed horse, and fitted rug or other protective gear if required'.</p> <p>PC 2.2: To make the unit more flexible, a small horse enclosure has been provided as an alternative wherever there is reference to stables throughout the unit.</p> <p>PC 2.4 has been modified to include the option of flooring materials for workplaces that don't use bedding.</p> <p>PE bullet 3a (hay nets): Hay nets have been retained on the advice of SMEWG, partly because they are commonly used and also for horse safety reasons.</p> <p>Bullets 8-10 and AC Bullet 2b -. The PE and AC have been made more flexible by providing the option of small horse enclosures for workplaces do use stables.</p>
<p>• RTO, NT</p> <p>My concerns that the handle unit is being pushed from the racing industry stems from the RGR package rules. There is no need for a base, nationally used unit to cover all the requirements of a racing industry/pony club, after handle they can make it as industry specific as they like.</p> <p>What can be the resolution to some industries not having workplace that has stable areas? Previously stable hygiene and stable feeding has been covered in knowledge? Even if the horses are in open stables on station (NT) there is no disinfecting ? Our training facilities at Katherine rural collage</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback.</p> <p>To make the unit more flexible, a small horse enclosure has been provided as an alternative wherever there is reference to stables throughout the unit.</p> <p>The SMEWG advised that workers at this level should have the skills to disinfect a structure that has had contact with a horse or may be</p>

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
	<p>is an open regularly pitched forked sand stable.</p> <p>This is not flexible enough to cover all industries nationally. What workplaces?? This is not flexible enough to cover agriculture, being one of the biggest industries in Australia ????</p> <p>This is the only unit with in our AHC, ACMHBR, ACMEQU packages that has a requirement for days it takes to assess. The student is either competent or the student needs to fail that assessment and go back to receive further training and be reassessed once comfortable. Request more information on why this takes so long to assess?</p> <p>To be fair there has been no consideration (if here has then please feel free to send me the document) for the northern agricultural industry.</p> <p>Why would we rug and stable horses in the conditions they are in, the heat, humidity, lack of facilities etc etc.</p>	<p>contaminated by a horse waste or other discharges. Therefore, the PE has been revised as follows:</p> <p>‘the individual must have completed at least one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • completely stripped out a stable, including removed bedding materials, disinfected walls and floor, and added clean bedding • cleaned and disinfected a small horse enclosure • cleaned and disinfected a crush or horse transport vehicle’. <p>If a stable is not available, the individual can clean and disinfect a small horse enclosure or a crush or a horse transport vehicle.</p> <p>The 7 day period has been included because environmental conditions and a horse's needs can change over that period, and the individual must respond appropriately to these changes.</p> <p>The requirement to collect evidence over 7 days does not mean the assessor has to physically observe the individual every day for 7 days. Evidence can be collected in other ways such as via third party reports or video evidence.</p> <p>The unit has been revised to allow for horses not to be rugged, if there is no requirement to do so. It is noted however, the rugging horses is common across most equine workplaces, and that horses may be rugged with wet rugs of they become heat stressed.</p> <p>PC and PE have been revised allowing for flexibility: PC4.5 ‘Fit rug and other protective gear if required and according to environmental conditions and individual horse requirement’. PE ‘groomed horse, and fitted rug or other protective gear if required’.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RTO, NT 	<p>Support with minor changes:</p> <p>PE bullet 6: Horses in our industry are very seldom rugged, if at all in some workplaces. assessing this criteria would be practically impossible in our environment.</p> <p>Bullet 8: The application states that the environments may include stables. once again our industry does not use stables and if they do they are not the kind that can be disinfected as suggested.</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback.</p> <p>PE bullet 6 - The unit has been revised to allow for horses not to be rugged, if there is no requirement to do so. It is noted however, the rugging of horses is common across most equine workplaces, and that horses may be rugged with wet rugs if they become heat stressed.</p> <p>PC and PE have been revised allowing for flexibility: PC4.5 ‘Fit rug and other protective gear if required and according to environmental conditions and individual horse requirement’. PE ‘groomed horse, and fitted rug or other protective gear if required’.</p> <p>To make the unit more flexible, a small horse enclosure has been provided as an alternative wherever there is reference to stables throughout the unit.</p>

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues	Consideration and Proposed Resolution
<p>KE bullet 4: Dressing a stable is not a requirement in our industry. bullet 9: Could this be changed to 'feed or bedding' rather than 'feed and bedding'</p> <p>bullet 10: Not applicable to our industry.</p> <p>bullet 12d: Not applicable to our industry.</p> <p>bullet 13b: Students can be made aware of this through the zoonosis heading. bullet 13e: This doesn't make sense.</p> <p>AC bullet 2b: The application is contradicted here.</p>	<p>KE Bullet 4 – the SMEWG advised to retain this as it important knowledge and includes floor coverings for workplaces that do not use bedding materials. KE Bullet 9 – the SMEWG advised to retain this as it important knowledge about stock control and lead times for procuring materials, and food and bedding are important to keep adequately supplied. KE Bullet 10 – the SMEWG advised to retain this as it important knowledge horse protective equipment that is widely used across equine workplaces KE 12 d has been made more flexible with the inclusion of the option of small horse enclosures. KE Bullet 13 - 'operating materials handling equipment' refers to any tool, machinery or vehicle used to move materials. For example, a vehicle used to distribute hay or food to horses.</p> <p>AC has been more flexible with the inclusion of the option of small horse enclosures and stables.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RTO, NT <p>Not supported: APP: not applicable for all industry's. Not all workplaces have access to stables and not all workplaces use rugs. E4:Not all industry's rug.</p> <p>PE (seven days): unrealistic and unachievable expectation in the agricultural sector.</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. The unit has been revised to allow for horses not to be rugged, if there is no requirement to do so. It is noted however, the rugging of horses is common across most equine workplaces, and that horses may be rugged with wet rugs if they become heat stressed. PC and PE have been revised allowing for flexibility: PC4.5 'Fit rug and other protective gear if required and according to environmental conditions and individual horse requirement'. PE 'groomed horse, and fitted rug or other protective gear if required'.</p> <p>PE: The 7 day period has been included because environmental conditions and a horse's needs can change over that period, and the individual must respond appropriately to these changes. The requirement to collect evidence over 7 days does not mean the assessor has to physically observe the individual every day for 7 days. Evidence can be collected in other ways such as via third party reports or video evidence.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RTOs, NT • Industry Association, NT <p>PE: ok with 7 days</p> <p>rugging is not used everywhere</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. PE period of time retained.</p> <p>The unit has been revised to allow for horses not to be rugged, if there is no requirement to do so. It is noted however, the rugging of horses is common across most equine workplaces, and that horses may be rugged with wet rugs if they become heat stressed. PC and PE have been revised allowing for flexibility: PC4.5 'Fit rug and other protective gear if required and according to environmental conditions and individual horse requirement'.</p>

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
	<p>change 'stable' references to include 'enclosed area': Clean and replaced bedding materials in a stable and or enclosed area.</p> <p>Change the PE bullets to be Must of completed one of the following?</p>	<p>PE 'groomed horse, and fitted rug or other protective gear if required'.</p> <p>To make the unit more flexible, a small horse enclosure has been provided as an alternative wherever there is reference to stables throughout the unit.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry Association, NT 	<p>PC2.4 (bedding): Note that a lot of stables in NT may only have sand/dirt as base of stables, particularly on rural properties as yards/paddocks may be all that horses are housed in.</p> <p>PE bullet 6 (rugged): If this is considered a key element of this unit this could be kept in, but will need to ensure that horses used are familiar with rugging.</p> <p>PE bullets 8-10: Bedding not used in most NT stables/yards (with an exception of some racetrack stables, sometimes at shows, etc.). Disinfecting walls and floor also unlikely to be applicable in many NT contexts.</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback.</p> <p>To make the unit more flexible, a small horse enclosure has been provided as an alternative wherever there is reference to stables throughout the unit.</p> <p>PE bullet 6 (rugged): The unit has been revised to allow for horses not to be rugged, if there is no requirement to do so. It is noted however, the rugging of horses is common across most equine workplaces, and that horses may be rugged with wet rugs if they become heat stressed.</p> <p>PE has been revised allowing for flexibility: PE 'groomed horse, and fitted rug or other protective gear if required'.</p> <p>In addition to this advice, the AC states - 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.</p> <p>The SMEWG advised that workers at this level should have the skills to disinfect a structure that has had contact with a horse or may be contaminated by a horse waste or other discharges. Therefore, the PE has been revised as follows: the individual must have completed at least one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> completely stripped out a stable, including removed bedding materials, disinfected walls and floor, and added clean bedding cleaned and disinfected a small horse enclosure cleaned and disinfected a crush or horse transport vehicle' <p>If a stable is not available, the individual can clean and disinfect a small horse enclosure or a crush or a horse transport vehicle.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, WA Industry, ACT 	<p>E2 and throughout document, change 'covered horse enclosure' to 'small horse enclosure'</p> <p>E4 and PE: keep rug, very useful skill, can be used for things like heat stress - soak rug in water and throw on</p> <p>PE 'hay nets': Keep, include this for safety purposes</p>	<p>The revised draft unit reflects the decisions taken in the validation meeting, except for rugging a horse. The unit has been revised to allow for horses not to be rugged, if there is no requirement to do so. It is noted however, the rugging of horses is common across most equine workplaces, and that horses may be rugged with wet rugs if they become heat stressed.</p>

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
	<p>PE support suggested last paragraph: In addition to the above, the individual must have completed at least one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • completed stripped out a stable, including removed bedding materials, disinfected walls and floor, and added clean bedding • cleaned and disinfected small horse enclosure • cleaned and disinfected a crush or horse transport. <p>KE bullet 4: keep depth of bedding bullet 9: keep bedding supplies bullet 10: keep horse protective equipment last bullet remove 'salmonella and cryptosporidiosis'</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government Department, NT 	<p>Performance Criteria – Element 4 The addition of 'rugging' of horses is not best practice in the NT due to weather conditions.</p> <p>Industry noting this is a dangerous element for a Certificate II learner, resulting in behavioural concerns in horses who have not previously been rugged.</p> <p>Recommendation: Inclusion of wording found suitable within the knowledge evidence section will provide learners with an understanding of the skills.</p> <p>Alternatively, change wording within the unit to 'fit rugs if required' will provide flexibility across other employers and jurisdictions.</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. Recommendation has been adopted, PC and PE have been revised for flexibility: PC4.5 'Fit rug and other protective gear if required and according to environmental conditions and individual horse requirement'. PE 'groomed horse, and fitted rug or other protective gear if required'.</p>
ACMEQU216 Check and treat horses		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RTO, WA 	<p>Yes with minor changes: PE bullet 5: Vulval is specific to mares can we use the word genitalia?</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. PE: Suggestion adopted and vulval replaced with genitalia.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RTO, NT 	<p>Not supported: PE 12b: If this horse is "suitably educated, calm, consistent and obedient horse". why would we require a twitch?</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. The ACM IRC considered the validation feedback received regarding the use restraints (twitches, hobble and crush) in the PE of <i>ACMEQU212 Handle horses safely</i>. After considering the feedback and a range of industry practices, the IRC have voted in support of keeping these restraints.</p> <p>Based on further discussions held with industry and in light of the ACM IRC decision, the PE has been revised and now offers the choice to not use nose and skin twitching:</p>

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'safely and effectively applied a restraint to horse, using at least one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hobble • nose twitch • skin twitch • horse crush • fitted an anti-rearing bit • fitted a bit and bridle • fitted and used appropriately a nose chain to headcollar'. <p>Comment on calm, obedient and consistent horses. These horse restraint skills are important and will be required of most horse care workers at some time in their work. The SMEWG has advised it is better to learn and demonstrate these skills on calm, obedient horses than not to develop these skills. The decision on the horse category relates back to the 2017 Safety in Equine Training Project linked to the ASQA Strategic Report 2015 into training in horse related units. We are aware of the inconsistency, but it is necessary to use this category of horse to help ensure the safety of learners during training and assessment of the unit.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RTO, NT 	<p>Supported with minor change: PE bullet 12b: Twitching a horse should be taken out as it goes against the Animal Welfare Act 1999: Part 2, Division 1: 7.1.e and f. the animal is handled only in ways that are appropriate and is confined or restrained only in ways that are appropriate. "something is not appropriate for an animal if: it causes, or is likely to cause the animal unnecessary suffering"</p> <p>How is twitching a horse a low stress handling technique? it can cause unpredictable horse behavior, putting our students at risk AND can cause nerve damage to the horse. This poses a massive animal welfare problem and if our industry leaders caught wind that we were delivering this in our education we would be highly dis-credited. Where is the horsemanship in this? Handling a horse in this way does not demonstrate good horsemanship and sets a very poor standard for our students.</p> <p>If applying a nose twitch is something that other industries feel strongly about, have it in knowledge, NOT performance.</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. The SMEWG and the ACM IRC support the use of twitching as horse restraint. After further consultation, the PE has been revised to make it more flexible and now reads:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'assisted as directed with the provision of first aid and/or other treatments, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demonstrated safe handling and positioning of self to reduce risks to self and others • restrained horse by use of head collar and lead, holding a leg up, positioning of horse and/or twitch (skin or nose)'. <p>When nose twitching is used correctly for short periods, it does not cause unnecessary suffering or create animal welfare issues. The RSPCA Animal Welfare Science Update – Issue 57, July 2017 reported on a study undertaken at an equestrian school in the USA comparing ear twitching to nose (lip) twitching. The study concluded "lip twitching resulted in reduction of stress during the first 5 minutes of treatment, supporting the notion that lip twitches induce an analgesic affect." The authors of the study concluded that "lip twitching may be used for up to 5 minutes, but chemical restraints should be considered for longer periods".</p>

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues	Consideration and Proposed Resolution
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RTO, NT <p>Supported with minor changes: PC1.7: Many of our workplaces do not shoe horses. I feel that 1.6 is quite sufficient for this unit. Add 'and/or' check shoes to 1.6?? PE (two horses): It is very rare for us to come across even one horse that requires treatment. I agree that students should be seen treating a horse a couple of times however seeing two injured or ill horses per workplace is very uncommon. bullet 4: This would be very unachievable in our sector. Horses requiring these checks are handed over to the supervisor or a vet. This would be a valid point for knowledge not performance. bullet 5: Once again this point would be more useful to us as knowledge evidence not performance. bullet 7: Does this mean performing hoof care/trimming? there are separate units for this. bullet 8: I like this 'if', needs to be applied to element 1.7</p> <p>bullet 12b: NO! If this is to be performed it would not be a safe practice for a person at this level.</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. PC 1.7 PC revised: 'Check shoes if fitted to horse for wear and damage, and report missing or loose shoes'.</p> <p>PE: The PE has been designed to collect evidence an individual can check a horse for signs of ill health or injury, and has the skills to apply basic treatments. There is no requirement in the PE to use injured or ill horses. The treatments have been deliberately left generic and can included preventative treatments, and all of which can be applied to a healthy horse without causing it any harm.</p> <p>Bullets 4 and 5: The SMEWG advised that these vital sign and discharge checks are basic and required of workers at this level.</p> <p>Bullet 7: This bullet has been revised to make it clearer and it now states - applied a hoof dressing</p> <p>PC 1.7 PC revised: 'Check shoes if fitted to horse for wear and damage, and report missing or loose shoes'.</p> <p>The SMEWG and the ACM IRC support the use of twitching as horse restraint. After further consultation, the PE has been revised to make it more flexible and now reads:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'assisted as directed with the provision of first aid and/or other treatments, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demonstrated safe handling and positioning of self to reduce risks to self and others • restrained horse by use of head collar and lead, holding a leg up, positioning of horse and/or twitch (skin or nose)'.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RTO, NT <p>PC1.7 add 'if required' at the end</p> <p>PE bullet 9 change to: 'administered topical and/or oral medications'.</p> <p>Same issues with use of skin twitch as in ACMEQU212.</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. Suggestion adopted - PC 1.7 PC revised: 'Check shoes if fitted to horse for wear and damage, and report missing or loose shoes'.</p> <p>PE Bullet 9 – the SMEWG advised that administering a topical and oral medication are important skills and both need to be demonstrated. The oral medication can be stimulated by giving the horse a drench using water if the horse does not require medication.</p> <p>The SMEWG and the ACM IRC support the use of twitching as horse restraint. After further consultation, the PE has been revised to make it more flexible and now reads:</p>

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 'assisted as directed with the provision of first aid and/or other treatments, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> demonstrated safe handling and positioning of self to reduce risks to self and others retrained horse by use of head collar and lead, holding a leg up, positioning of horse and/or twitch (skin or nose)'.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, NSW 	<p>Could it please be clarified what they are dressing hooves for? Show prep or hoof conditioners/oil. We don't feel this an essential skill to train and assess and is very workplace specific.</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. Bullet 7: This bullet has been revised to make it clearer and it now states, 'applied a hoof dressing'. This can be done to condition a horse's hooves.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry Association, NT 	<p>PE bullet 12b (twitch and positioning of horse): Should this read and/or? Or do all of these restraint techniques require demonstration?</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. All of the restraints require demonstration to ensure the worker can safely assist with medical treatments of horses. Bullet 12b: The SMEWG and the ACM IRC support the use of twitching as horse restraint. After further consultation, the PE has been revised to make it more flexible and now reads:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 'assisted as directed with the provision of first aid and/or other treatments, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> demonstrated safe handling and positioning of self to reduce risks to self and others retrained horse by use of head collar and lead, holding a leg up, positioning of horse and/or twitch (skin or nose)'.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry Association, NSW 	<p>Unit ACMEQU216 was referred to me by a curriculum manager for my input into the requirement for students to demonstrate nose twitching. This practice is very outdated and is not supported by evidence based data that it is a low stress handling technique, quite the opposite, that the overwhelming pain caused by the twitching causes the horse to stand still and submit. I cannot remember the last time I used a twitch on a horse, and would not recommend its use for any reason as it can cause long term behavioural problems with a horse. Knowledge of evidence based low stress handling techniques should be informing all of the student's horse handling.</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. Bullet 12b: The SMEWG and the ACM IRC support the use of twitching as horse restraint. After further consultation, the PE has been revised to make it more flexible and now reads:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 'assisted as directed with the provision of first aid and/or other treatments, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> demonstrated safe handling and positioning of self to reduce risks to self and others retrained horse by use of head collar and lead, holding a leg up, positioning of horse and/or twitch (skin or nose)'.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, WA Industry, ACT 	<p>PE bullet 4: Pony club teach this, basic skill. Leave in bullet 5: change 'vulva' to 'genitalia' bullet 7: change to '• cleaned, checked and applied a hoof dressing' bullet 9: keep 'topical and oral' - important to be able to do and can be simulated with water bullet 12b: keep skin twitch</p>	<p>The revised draft unit reflects the decisions taken in the validation meeting as suggested.</p>
<p>ACMEQU221 Manage personal health and fitness for working with horses</p>		

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, WA 	Document approved in validation	Thank you for supporting the unit.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, VIC 	E4: AQF feedback comment in draft not fully addressed. 4.2 requires the recognition and response to the physical and mental state of team members. This element then aligns more with AQF III level application of knowledge and skills (qualification type learning outcome descriptors) in terms of taking limited responsibility for the output of others. The knowledge evidence is extensive and broad (some KE dot points are repetitive) but does not include how to respond to the mental and physical state of others in a supportive manner. 4.2 is in part, repetitive of 4.1.	<p>Thank you for the feedback.</p> <p>Element 4 and its PC have been completed revised to better reflect AQF level 2 outcomes:</p> <p>E4: 'Support team members to manage personal fitness and health at work</p> <p>PCs: 4.1 Recognise signs that team member may be experiencing personal fitness and/or health concerns</p> <p>4.2 Communicate to team member support services available inside and/or outside the workplace that may help them address fitness and/or health concerns'.</p> <p>A check of the KE did not find unnecessary repetition of bullet points. The sequencing of the bullet points has been revised for a more coherent flow.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTOs, WA, QLD, NSW, NT Industry, ACT Industry Associations, WA & National 	support changes to E4 and KE	The revised draft unit reflects the decisions taken in the validation meeting as suggested.
ACMEQU305 Implement a horse health program		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, VIC 	PE (suitable horses): What is a suitable horse? Bullet 5: Implementation issue. Requiring an injection on live horses for PE likely to present an animal ethics issue for RTOs.	<p>Thank you for the feedback.</p> <p>Suitable horses has been changed to compliant and manageable horses, as this type of horse is defined in the User Guide: Safety in Equine Training.</p> <p>Bullet 5: The SMEWG advised to retain the administration of an injection according to veterinary instruction, but only require this for one horse instead of three horses.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, WA Industry, ACT 	E4 is fine - fix numbers change PC5.2: 'Arrange dental treatment according to workplace procedures' PC3.7: replace 'sterilise' with 'disinfect' PE compliant and manageable is supported bullet 5 move to bottom section to be just for 1 horse: '• used appropriate technique and location to administer an injection according to veterinary instructions'	The revised draft unit reflects the decisions taken in the validation meeting as suggested.

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	<p>PE added restraints as per inclusion for <i>ACMEQU212 Handle horses safely</i>.</p> <p>KE add in new bullets: • considerations for routine hoof care checks and treatment, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • seasonal or environmental factors • workload <p>remove 'salmonella and cryptosporidiosis'.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RTO, NSW 	<p>4.1 Provide routine hoof care for individual horse Can hoof care be clarified please. Basic trim? Checking and cleaning out feet? Organise for farrier to provide hoof care?</p> <p>5.2 Apply dental treatments as instructed Can this please be described in more detail. The only person that applies dental treatment to horses on site is a qualified equine dentist or vet.</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback.</p> <p>4.1: Routine hoof care includes a regular check of the horse's hooves and shoes if fitted. The intent is more than a quick check and clean of hooves that is covered in the level 2 unit – Check and treat horses. The is a thorough check of the hooves may result in further actions, such as a change in paddock or stable bedding/flooring, a light trim of hooves, the application of a dressing, or arranging of farriery of veterinary services.</p> <p>5.2: The PC has been revised and now reads 'Arrange dental treatment according to workplace procedures'</p>
ACMEQU306 Provide routine care for horses		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RTO, WA • Industry, ACT 	<p>change all references to 'covered horse enclosure' to 'small horse enclosure'</p> <p>E2 remove 'and rug' and add PC on trimming</p> <p>remove E3</p> <p>PC4.1 change 'stable' to 'workplace requirements'</p> <p>PE bullet 9 change 'stable' to 'workplace' and throughout KE</p> <p>KE bullet 13 replace 'sterilise' with 'disinfect'</p> <p>remove 'salmonella and cryptosporidiosis'</p>	<p>The revised draft unit reflects the decisions taken in the validation meeting as suggested.</p>
ACMEQU309 Carry out basic hoof care procedures		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RTO, NT 	<p>Not supported:</p> <p>PE top bullet section: For the "at least one horse" it is not practical to observe first aid treatment for horses with all of those kinds of conditions. If you have horses with all of these hoof problems this is exceptionally rare.</p> <p>It is NOT a performance requirement to explain first aid treatment. This is knowledge and therefore should go in the knowledge section. Tasks such as picking up feet, using farrier equipment, applying PPE etc these are practical tasks that belong under performance.</p> <p>It needs to be remembered that this unit is "basic hoofcare" these students are not farriers.</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback.</p> <p>The task does not actually require a horse or horses to have all the conditions listed or actual treatment of these conditions. The requirement has been made clearer after a meeting with stakeholders from the RTO and now reads:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • used a live horse to indicate the location and signs of, and verbally explained first aid treatment for the following hoof conditions/ailments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • laminitis (founder) • bruised heel/caudal hoof pain • bruised sole and corn • hoof abscess • sandcrack (toe crack, quarter crack, heel crack) • thrush • seedy toe bacteria (white line disease)

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<p>• RTO, NT</p> <p>Not supported: APP: all of the following assessment, performance requirements go against the application statement. as nearly all of the performance should be done by a farrier or vet. Second paragraph: Broad direction ? this statement is hard to gauge what is meant?</p> <p>PC1.1: identification and location is covered in pre-requisite PC2.1: why bandages and medications? application states - simple hoof treatments ? PC2.3: does this mean there has to be an injury to the leg? to complete basic hoof care? 2.3 & 2.6 ???</p> <p>PC3.5: Hard records? that a shoe was removed ? this is not required PE: there's a trend that now appears in this unit that the horse "MUST" have an injury of a fairly high pain marker, the unit its basic hoof care procedures - should it not be a maintenance to prevent injury and a knowledge of identifying injury to get the correct personnel to complete the veterinary or farrier treatment required ?</p> <p>Bullet 11: for training yes, for assessment no, you cant prove you can pull a shoe off correctly on a dead horse, it needs to</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. Application: The application statement and the PE evidence are consistent - the outcomes of the unit have been developed to allow skilled horse workers to provide basic hoof care, especially when a farrier or veterinarian is not available, but not to replace services that do require a farrier or veterinarian. Work 'under broad direction' has been used in this and other revised ACMEQU units to show the unit outcomes reflect AQF level 3 descriptors. In the units that reflect AQF level 2 descriptors, 'under supervision' has been used.</p> <p>PC1.1: While the PCs may be similar, it is a requirement with every horse task to confirm the horse identification, identify the hazards, assess and control their risks. In the prerequisite unit, <i>ACMEQU212 Handle horses safely</i> the handling tasks are generic, whereas in this unit, they are specially related to hoof care, which requires the use of PC1.1. PC2.1, 2.3 and 2.6 - SMEWG has advised that these are commonly used for simple hoof procedures, both to treat and prevent conditions/injuries. They may also be performed as directed by a farrier or veterinarian. The unit is written as training standard so it does not require horses with injured hooves to train the unit. It is up to each RTO to decide the most appropriate way to train and assess the unit, ensuring all the outcomes described by PCs are covered. PC3.5: To allow for flexibility across workplaces, the PC has been modified to include - according to workplace requirements PE: The task does not actually require a horse or horses to have all the conditions listed or actual treatment of these conditions. The requirement has been made clearer after a meeting with stakeholders from the RTO and now reads:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • used a live horse to indicate the location and signs of, and verbally explained first aid treatment for the following hoof conditions/ailments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • laminitis (founder) • bruised heel/caudal hoof pain • bruised sole and corn • hoof abscess • sandcrack (toe crack, quarter crack, heel crack) • thrush • seedy toe bacteria (white line disease) <p>Hoof care treatment to prevent injury and ailments is covered by PC2.3 and in the PC by the requirement to have "applied a dressing or treatment to all hooves"</p>

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	<p>be live to deal with the reactions safely. Bullet 12: in our industry the students themselves replace the shoe and carry out all of the hoofcare maintenance how can this apply to them ?</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, NT 	<p>Supported with minor changes: PC1.1: Covered in prerequisite unit</p> <p>Element 2: This reads as if the horse is injured, which would then fall under provide first aid to horses or check and treat horses. PC 3.3 & 3.4: Should be within the scope of this unit to remove, flatten and replace an already shaped shoe</p> <p>PC3.5: This should say - if required. Most workplaces would not require records to be kept of something like this.</p> <p>PE bullet 1: Do not agree - this is not something widely performed in a vast majority of workplaces in the northern pastoral industry bullet 3a-f: These things should be in knowledge. Otherwise it requires they have access to a foundered horse or one with thrush or an abscess and in many areas and workplaces this is extremely uncommon</p> <p>bullet 4: Knowledge evidence or assessment via video. Having access to an actual lame horse at the appropriate time could be problematic since the idea is to keep them from going lame at all and would certainly not be laming one just for student observation bullet 10: This will be as required - many workplaces in our area do not keep these records, since the staff trim and show</p>
	<p>Bullet 11: Not all workplaces will allow a worker to remove a loose shoe on a live horse, so the use of a cadaver leg has been added for these workers.</p> <p>Bullet 12: The reporting requirement does not have to relate to shoe removal and replacement. I can also be for reporting signs of a hoof condition where the worker requires professional advice.</p>
	<p>Thank you for the feedback. PC1.1: While the PCs may be similar, it is a requirement with every horse task to confirm the horse identification, identify the hazards, assess and control their risks. In the prerequisite unit, <i>ACMEQU212 Handle horses safely</i> the handling tasks are generic, whereas in this unit, they are specially related to hoof care, which requires the use of PC1.1 Element 2 has been designed for the provision of hoof care procedures to main hoof health and prevent injury or ailments. It can also be used for the treatment of existing hoof injuries and conditions apart from the provision of first aid. The SMEWG had considered the scope of this unit and decided that it should not include the shoe fitting, as the risks of injury to the horse are too high. While it is acknowledged that many horse care workers in remote locations will replace horse shoes, in many workplaces, this is solely done by a farrier. PC3.5: To allow for flexibility across workplaces, the PC has been modified to include - according to workplace requirements</p> <p>PE: The task does not actually require a horse or horses to have all the conditions listed or actual treatment of these conditions. The requirement has been made clearer after a meeting with stakeholders from the RTO and now reads:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> used a live horse to indicate the location and signs of, and verbally explained first aid treatment for the following hoof conditions/ailments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> laminitis (founder) bruised heel/caudal hoof pain bruised sole and corn hoof abscess sandcrack (toe crack, quarter crack, heel crack) thrush seedy toe bacteria (white line disease) <p>Bullet 4 has been reworded to highlight a video or a live horse can be used to identify lameness in a horse</p> <p>Bullet 10: The reporting requirement does not have to relate to shoe</p>

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues	Consideration and Proposed Resolution
	<p>their own work horses and are required to keep them in good condition but not required to fill out individual records of dates and treatments bullet 11: Should include replacing the shoe</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, NT 	<p>removal and replacement. They can also be for reporting signs of a hoof condition where the worker requires professional advice.</p> <p>Bullet 11: Not all workplaces will allow a worker to remove a loose shoe on a live horse, so the use of a cadaver leg has been added for these workers.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, NT 	<p>Not supported: PC2.3: Dressings and medications? so the horse would need to be injured to complete this unit? PC2.6: recovery? therefore there must have had an injury? why do you require an injured horse to "carry out basic hoof care?"</p> <p>E1: This entire section is about treating injury not all horses in fact very few horses requiring hoof care are injured.</p> <p>PC1.1: Why have a prerequisite?</p> <p>PC1.3: Restraining a horse securely is an unsafe practice when performing hoof care. Unsafe for the horse and the handler.</p> <p>PC1.4: Does this mean that the horse has to pose an injury?</p> <p>Assessment Conditions: It seems that the concept of 'Hoof care' has been changed to a degree in veterinary as we rarely if at come across any of these problems in the north.</p>
	<p>Thank you for the feedback. There is no requirement to have injured horse/s in order to train and assess this unit. After meeting with stakeholders from this RTO, this has been made even clearer in the PE. It was already specified in the Assessment Conditions.</p> <p>Thank you for the feedback. E1 - Element 1 is about examining a horse's hooves to check for general condition and signs of ill health, shoe condition and actions required. Element 2 - Provide hoof care to horse can be used for treating and dressing horses, either as preventative maintenance or for injury or illness. The Elements, PCs (including PC 1.4) and PE of this unit do not require the use of injured or ill horses. PC1.1: While the PCs may be similar, it is a requirement with every horse task to confirm the horse identification, identify the hazards, assess and control their risks. In the prerequisite unit, <i>ACMEQU212 Handle horses safely</i> the handling tasks are generic, whereas in this unit, they are specially related to hoof care, which requires the use of PC1.1.</p> <p>PC 1.3 has been changed to 'Restraining horse securely using techniques to prevent injury to horse and worker, lift its feet, check condition of hooves, and shoes, using safe and low stress horse handling techniques'. This wording was agreed to in discussion with stakeholders from this RTO to make the restraint methods flexible.</p> <p>PC 1.4 does not mean that a horse has to have a hoof injury, but it does allow for seeking advice if the hoof health status requires a professional opinion. The Assessment Requirements have been reviewed by the developer and further confirmed with the SMEWG that they reflect indicative AQF level 3 outcomes as hoof injuries and ailments are required to be identified across most equine work places. The Assessment Conditions also allow for the use of video and cadaver horse legs to be used where live horses are not available.</p>

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTOs, NT Industry Association, NT 	<p>PE can 'light trim' be changed to Correct balanced trim on live horse (one horse is ok) bullet 3 add in 'used a live horse to indicate...'</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. The SMEWG advised to retain light trim for all three horses and not to mandate a correct balanced trim on one horse, because a correct balance trim is typically undertaken by farriers or others with more skills than this unit covers. Bullet 3: Suggestion adopted, wording changed to 'used a live horse to indicate...'</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry Association, NT 	<p>PE (light trim): agree to change to correct balanced trim on live horse</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. The SMEWG advised to retain light trim for all three horses and not to mandate a correct balanced trim on one horse, because a correct balance trim is typically undertaken by farriers or others with more skills than this unit covers.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, NT 	<p>PE last bullet: Yes some flexibility of whom and how this report is given will help.</p> <p>Thanks for the explanation, our students are not exposed to vets or farriers so it's not possible to give that report to them so an assessor would be much better.</p> <p>But if it has to be a written report I'm assuming we can add that to our theory after the practical has been completed. Assuming there is actually nothing wrong with the horse your just identifying one particular injury and explaining how they identified it and what first aid they would prescribe ?.</p> <p>But it won't be submitted to a vet or farrier. That was our concern.</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. PE: Has been changed to allow the option to provide either a written or verbal report.</p> <p>The report needs to be written using industry terminology but with a veterinarian or a farrier in mind, but it does not need to be submitted or assessed by a veterinarian or farrier.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, WA Industry, SA & ACT Industry Association, WA 	<p>PC1.3 remove 'securely'. PC2.6 remove 'recovery' E3 remove 'emergency'. PC3.5 add in 'according to workplace requirements' FS oral communication update: 'Use industry terminology to describe hoof ailments and injuries'. PE do not include: completed a correct balance trim of all four hooves Add in 'used safe position and posture when working with horses' hooves'. Allow the option to provide either a written or verbal report. PE and KE add 'seedy toe bacteria (white line disease)'</p>	<p>This feedback was received during the validation meeting and these changes have been reflected in the updated draft units.</p>

Certificates II & III Fitness, exercise and conditioning

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
ACMEQU220 Lunge educated horses		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, WA 	Document approved in validation	Thank you for supporting the unit.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, NSW 	PE bullet 6: add headstall	Thank you for the feedback. The SMEWG advised that a headstall is not required in this unit.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTOs, WA, NSW & QLD Industry, NSW Industry Association, National 	PE: keep in gear, do not include 'headstall' bullet 6 add in: 'safe equipment' KE bullet 5 add in: 'use of safe horse...' AC bullet 2b add in: 'safe horse gear...'	This feedback was received during the validation meeting and these changes have been reflected in the updated draft units.
ACMEQU307 Introduce horses to lunge exercise		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, NSW 	PE bullet 4: add headstall	Thank you for the feedback. The SMEWG advised that it is not necessary to specify the use of a headstall in the PE, as it is not always used.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTOs, WA, NSW & QLD Industry, NSW Industry Association, WA & National 	APP, PCs, PE, KE and AC clarified for intent of unit.	This feedback was received during the validation meeting and these changes have been reflected in the updated draft units.
ACMEQU314 Provide non-riding exercises to horse		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTOs, WA, NSW & QLD Industry, NSW 	Add in PC: 'Maintain safe position at all times when conducting non-riding exercise'. PE bullet 2 change references to 'swimming' to 'wading and/or swimming' throughout unit remove bullet 3c: • demonstrated operation of emergency flotation devices and rescue equipment for handler and horse -	This feedback was received during the validation meeting and these changes have been reflected in the updated draft units.

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry Association, National 	as not applicable at beach where some RTO's will assess this unit.	

Certificates II & III Competition, events, sales and transport

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
ACMEQU217 Load and unload horses		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, WA 	Document approved in validation	Thank you for supporting the unit.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTOs, WA & VIC Industry Association, National 	new PC3.3 Remove horse travel gear if required KE bullet 6 add in: '• purpose, benefits and risks of common...'	This feedback was received during the validation meeting and these changes have been reflected in the updated draft units.
ACMEQU308 Transport horses by road		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTOs, WA & VIC Industry Association, National 	PC1.2: remove 'and/or engage a suitable carrier New PC1.3: Check vehicle meets safety and horse welfare requirements and report issues if required move PC2.6 to 2.1 KE bullet 4, add sub bullet: • vehicle condition including tyres, brake lights and floor bullet 5a change to: • distance to be travelled and required rest breaks	This feedback was received during the validation meeting and these changes have been reflected in the updated draft units.
ACMEQU311 Prepare horses for presentation an event		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, NSW 	Plaiting element I know I have bought this up time and time again but can people on the panel please consider that we understand preparing stock horses and quarter horses isn't the only area individuals will be preparing horses for competition, sale or presentation but can the element just focus on presenting mane to the workplace/discipline/ breed requirement. If not why is hogging of a horses mane (clipping all of the mane off) not been considered to be included?? A skill an individual may need to know in certain workplaces just like plaiting to present the mane of horses (eg stock horse, campdraft, polo cross, polo, stations) that needs to be trained to be undertaken safely and to presentation standard.	Thank you for the feedback. The requirement to plait a horse mane has been retained in Element 5, because the skill is required by many equine workplaces. It is a common skill requirement and has equal value apart from the presentation of horses at an event.

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, WA 	Document approved in validation	Thank you for supporting the unit.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTOs, WA & VIC Industry Association, National 	<p>change title to Prepare horses for presentation at event, clarify what an event can be in the APP and make consistent throughout unit.</p> <p>APP, noting that preparation can take place outside of event venue.</p> <p>E5 - keep in plaiting, this can be done for other reasons than an event and is very useful and a common skill requirement</p> <p>PE change horse types to 'at least two different consistent and manageable horses...'</p> <p>change wording for event types</p> <p>bullet 6 change 'mane and tail' to 'mane and/or tail' and remove 'using manual pulling or thinning blades'</p> <p>KE add new bullet '• handling and removal of waste products related to horse grooming and presentation, including consideration of environmental and legislative requirements'.</p>	This feedback was received during the validation meeting and these changes have been reflected in the updated draft units.
ACMEQU312 Prepare and care for horses to perform at events		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTOs, WA & VIC Industry Association, National 	<p>PC1.7 add 'and loading'</p> <p>PC2.6 change 'housed' to 'secured'</p> <p>PE change horse types to 'at least two different compliant and manageable horses...'</p> <p>remove bullet 5a: dressed hooves</p> <p>bullet 6a add: 'arrival and secured at even location'</p> <p>bullet 6b remove 'housing, exercising, rugging', change to 'basic welfare and health checks'.</p>	This feedback was received during the validation meeting and these changes have been reflected in the updated draft units.

Certificates II & III Exercise and Riding

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
ACMEQU218 Perform horse riding skills at walk, trot and canter		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, NT 	<p>Not supported: PE bullet 2 (including helmet): industry does not require the use of a helmet past a particular level of assessment. this would pose issues for workplace assessments.</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. The SMEWG advised that the PPE, riding helmets must stay in the PE as it important for rider safety, especially in this entry level riding unit.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, NT 	<p>Supported with minor changes: PE bullet 2 (including helmet): Agree with 1618. Could wording change to "used and correctly fitted PPE" Then it covers a much broader number of industries as some industries require much more PPE than what is listed and some require less. (1618 - industry does not require the use of a helmet past a particular level of assessment. this would pose issues for workplace assessments). bullet 5f (2 point): Needs to change the 2 AND 3 point seat to OR. Not all industries practice 2 point.</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. The SMEWG advised that the PPE, riding helmets must stay in the PE as it important for rider safety, especially in this entry level riding unit.</p> <p>Bullet 5f: Suggestion adopted, 2 point and 3 point seat have been removed from the requirements</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, NSW 	<p>I am extremely concerned that no where in the riding units Perform horse riding skills at a walk , trot and canter and Develop riding skills to exercise horses is there assessment for an individual to undertake an emergency one rein stop or even a stop on a horse to assess that a candidate can stop a horse in an emergency or in response to a horse that may undertake a flight response. This can be simulated to assess that a candidate knows what aids to apply if it was to occur.</p> <p>Can we please request that this is included as it is a fundamental safety skill ALL riders need to be taught in response to a horse may show signs it may shy, buck, bolt or if an individual is lacking confidence on a horse and needs to stop the horse to dismount.</p> <p>An emergency one rein stop and a stop is a fundamental skill trained and assessed at Tocal College even if students (including the beginner riders) are being trained on a calm, obedient and compliant horses that will not exhibit the behaviour listed. We want to enforce to students that ANY horse may act unpredictably at ANY time to avoid complacency. We know from feedback from students that seek employment in the industry that this skill has been a key to keeping them safe as unfortunately some employers will mount them on a horse they said was supposedly quiet!! . A one rein emergency stop is a key manuevere our horses have been trained to undertake from</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. Suggestion adopted, an emergency stop outcome has been added to the PCs and PE of the unit.</p>

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
	<p>their first ride. Every horse onsite used in training has been trained to respond to this. Knowing how to attempt to stop a horse at any given time we feel a crucial safety skill. Can someone please contact us to discuss why this may not be of importance to include if it isn't?</p> <p>Although the term halt has been used in element 2. A halt is not a response to undertake if a horse undertakes a flight response.</p> <p>Could the term stop please be included aswell as halt is discipline specific.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTOs, WA, QLD & NSW Industry Associations, WA & National 	<p>New PC2.7 demonstrate emergency stop using safe technique - include in PE and KE</p> <p>PC2.7 'Dismount safely' - Cover in companion guide</p> <p>PE bullet 2: keep helmet and other PPE, match the language used to the safe work practices, reflect these changes in the AC</p> <p>PE bullet 5b add: to safely ride all gaits and safely negotiate around obstacles</p> <p>bullet 5c remove 'within gait and'</p> <p>bullet 5f change to: • cantering for a distance of a minimum of 100 metres</p> <p>add in demonstrated safe emergency stop</p> <p>KE bullet 8 change to: • key animal welfare principles and practices for interaction with horses and riding, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • low stress techniques related to riding • rider core balance and fitness <p>AC bullet 2c change to: • other horses with riders</p> <p>support changes to assessor requirements, further work on hours to be done</p>	<p>This feedback was received during the validation meeting and these changes have been reflected in the updated draft units.</p>
ACMEQU219 Develop riding skills for exercising horses		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, NSW 	<p>2.3: Identify footfalls Remove identify footfalls.</p> <p>We feel for a level 2 candidate to be accomplished in identifying footfalls when riding not a suitable expectation. Being able to identify the footfalls when riding is an advanced skill for a level 2 student who is still developing their riding skills in regards to hand, leg and seat aids. We find in our training, individuals can trot on the correct diagonal and set a horse up to take the correct canter lead consistently but may not necessarily be able to verbally tell you the footfalls when riding but they have enough 'feel' to cue the horse at the appropriate time to pick up the correct lead departure or rise to the correct diagonal. If it</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. The SMEWG advised that footfalls need to stay in this unit because it is required by workers at this level.</p>

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues	Consideration and Proposed Resolution
<p>was to stay could there please be more detail on how this should be assessed. The skill of feeling for the footfalls reflects someone with significant experience in training horses over an extensive period of time and we don't feel needs to be expected of someone who is still developing their riding skills.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="163 331 353 355">• RTO, NSW <p>I am extremely concerned that no where in the riding units Perform horse riding skills at a walk , trot and canter and Develop riding skills to exercise horses is there assessment for an individual to undertake an emergency one rein stop or even a stop on a horse to assess that a candidate can stop a horse in an emergency or in response to a horse that may undertake a flight response. This can be simulated to assess that a candidate knows what aids to apply if it was to occur.</p> <p>Can we please request that this is included as it is a fundamental safety skill ALL riders need to be taught in response to a horse may show signs it may shy, buck, bolt or if an individual is lacking confidence on a horse and needs to stop the horse to dismount.</p> <p>An emergency one rein stop and a stop is a fundamental skill trained and assessed at Tocal College even if students (including the beginner riders) are being trained on a calm, obedient and compliant horses that will not exhibit the behaviour listed. We want to enforce to students that ANY horse may act unpredictably at ANY time to avoid complacency. We know from feedback from students that seek employment in the industry that this skill has been a key to keeping them safe as unfortunately some employers will mount them on a horse they said was supposedly quiet!! . A one rein emergency stop is a key manuevere our horses have been trained to undertake from their first ride. Every horse onsite used in training has been trained to respond to this. Knowing how to attempt to stop a horse at any given time we feel a crucial safety skill. Can someone please contact us to discuss why this may not be of importance to include if it isn't?</p> <p>Although the term halt has been used in element 2. A halt is not a response to undertake if a horse undertakes a flight response.</p> <p>Could the term stop please be included aswell as halt is discipline specific.</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback.</p> <p>The SMEWG advised that it is not necessary to add an emergency stop in this unit, because this has been added to the prerequisite unit ACMEQU218, and there is no need to duplicate here.</p>

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
	Also in regards to holding of reins in the performance evidence of Develop riding skills exercise horses should this be independent or one handed or bridged to give the option? We feel this could pose a risk if horses being trained for assessment have not been accustomed to each of these rein aids.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTOs, WA, QLD & NSW Industry Associations, WA & National 	<p>PC2.3 keep in footfalls, keep in PE PC, PE and KE remove one rein stop</p> <p>AC support changes to assessor requirements and further explanation of these requirements to be included in the User Guide: Safety in Equine Training.</p>	This feedback was received during the validation meeting and these changes have been reflected in the updated draft units.
ACMEQU310 Exercise and school horses		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, NSW 	<p>Add in consultation with supervisor in the application and performance evidence. See example below</p> <p>"The unit applies to individuals who are experienced riders that school and exercise horses. They work under broad direction, applying knowledge and discretion to assess horses, solve problems and meet the requirement of individual horse training program. Propose to add in consultation with supervisor here. (see reasoning below)</p> <p>We feel the skill of "assessing a level of horses education" suited to a level 4, more so diploma. From our experience in training we have individuals who are experienced and accomplished riders but may not have ridden a large variety of horses to compare how each horse differs in their level of education in response to aids, suppleness, mouth or balance. If the term assess remains can we propose it is "undertake basic" and in consultation with supervisor. This is a skill that should be seen to be gained through extensive experience in riding a variety of horses.</p> <p>We feel at a level 3 it should be the process of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -confirm level of education in consultation with supervisor who has ridden or been responsible for this horses training program before the individual rides it. - they then ride and report on horse education based off the consultation with supervisor and under supervision of supervisor - then they put the schooling program into practice under broad direction and in consistent consultation with supervisor to 	<p>Thank you for the feedback.</p> <p>The SMEWG advised that the flow of work in the unit is correct but agreed to remove the references to 'client' throughout the unit.</p> <p>The SMEWG confirmed that the range of schooling movements provided in the PE is sufficient for most users of this unit. It also agreed to add the following three schooling movements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 'stop or halt turn a horse on hindquarters back up'.

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues	Consideration and Proposed Resolution
<p>ensure they are meeting the milestones for the horse and being mentored in the schooling process.</p> <p>We are concerned that the years of experience required to develop the "feel" and experience to assess a horse's level of education being significantly underestimated. From a safety perspective we feel assessing a horse's level of education should be still conducted initially in consultation with a supervisor/head horse trainer who have a detailed understanding of the horse's level of education and history and to also highlight to candidates the value of being mentored in developing these skills over an extensive period of time.</p> <p>The example we give is just because someone has broken in or started 3 horses in their initial education in a short time frame eg horse starting clinics, doesn't deem them a skilled or experienced horse breaker/ starter. Deeming a candidate competent to assess horse's level of education independently we don't feel suitable at this stage in their training or experience and should be a skill learnt over an extensive period of time.</p> <p>Propose to remove the word "client" from this unit. Someone who is in the position to be providing this information to a client should be someone with extensive years of experience in educating and assessing horse's level of education. The term client suited to a diploma level where the individual has specialised knowledge in an area or skill and once again we feel may make a candidate assume they are capable of providing this information to a client who may have little horse knowledge themselves and pose a safety risk to these individuals. Information about a horse's level of education should be communicated by someone in a specialised role who has extensive knowledge of this horse's history or behavioural traits such as an experienced horse trainer.</p> <p>The schooling movements that a candidate can select from are not general across all disciplines and does not acknowledge the importance of other select schooling movements commonly used in other disciplines. Please consider adding at least the following 3 movements suggested in our previous feedback: turn horse on hindquarters to both left and right, stop/halt and back up. See reasons below.</p>	

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues

Consideration and Proposed Resolution

Turning a horse on the forequarters is a movement we do school our horses in our terms we disengage the hindquarters but in later stages of the training program turning horses on the hindquarters are a key and consistent movement schooled and focused on. Turning a horse on the fore quarters is not a manoeuvre used, practiced or desired in stock horse competitions, campdraft, cutting, reining , challenge events, polocrosse, cowhorse events . It does not allow a horse to physically perform the manoeuvre of a turn around effectively to be efficient in these disciplines. Horses that turn on their forequarters will be marked down by judges as a haunch turn, turn around or rollback are always the specified movements to be executed in challenge and stockhorse patterns at competitions. In the disciplines of campdraft , cutting, cowhorse events, polocrosse, reining a horse that turns on its fore quarters will not be competitive in these disciplines listed above with their level of agility, speed and efficiency being effected. The schooling movements we have proposed would be expected by many employers in the performance horse industry and some of these disciplines are the fastest growing horse sports in the country. The movements we have proposed are also used for the preparation of stock horses and quarter horses in annual performance horses sales , including nutrien classic sale where up to 600 horses are catalogued. Trainers of these disciplines on the SME panel would understand the importance educating a horse to utilise their hindquarters in these disciplines/competitions or sale preparation.

Stop and back up are also common and generic movements performed in the majority of disciplines or are key movements that can assist a horse to perform other movements well if they can perform them effectively such as a turn around, open and shutting gates in a utility class and backing up in a hack or working pattern. They are also movements that are incorporated into any assessment undertaken of horses in regards to assess a horses level of education and responsiveness to riders aids including the checklists provided in the Safety in Equine Training User Guide. These movements are also used in the training programs of many employers of our graduates.

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTOs, WA, QLD & NSW Industry Associations, WA & National 	<p>support removal of 'client' throughout unit but keep in the KE PE support horse type as 'compliant and manageable' change bullet 3: • developed and demonstrated exercises showing at least three of the following schooling movements in the horse:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> accurately complete circles with a 20 metre diameter in trot and canter accurately complete circles with a 15 metre diameter in trot and canter leg yielding type exercise to both left and right turn on forehand to the left and right shoulder in left and right counter canter using left and right lead simple changes through trot, and walk stop or halt turn a horse on hindquarters back up. <p>reflect PE changes in KE list AC support changes, look further at adding hours</p>	<p>This feedback was received during the validation meeting and these changes have been reflected in the updated draft units.</p>

Certificate IV & Diploma Nutrition and diet

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
ACMEQU417 Advise on horse nutritional needs		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry, ACT 	<p>3.2 remove 'equine' from 'equine veterinarian' and add 'as required' to end PE bullet 1d, put information into KE identifying when appropriate to refer client to veterinarian or equine service provider, ie if you have changed the diet but after 3 weeks the condition has not improved, then would refer for advice (or allergy, physical reaction or behavioural reaction) AC bullet 2b change to 'live horses, with three different...'</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. Adopted changes to PC3.2. PE - removed point relating to referral to a professional as not a common event and moved to KE point.</p>
ACMEQU501 Manage horse nutrition and feeding plans		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry, ACT 	<p>KE bullet 3a change to: '• indicators and consequences of nutrient deficiency dietary imbalances and metabolic condition'</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. Adopted KE suggestion.</p>
ACMEQU504 Manage horse pastures		

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry Association, National 	Support KE social licence inclusion add in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> key features of a conditioning program, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> individual horse information fitness methods, nutrition, timelines, contingent strategies, goals/desired outcomes, milestones/benchmarking points 	Thank you for the feedback. Adopted suggestions and added new KE point: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> key features of a conditioning or fitness program, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> information about individual horse program goals (short and longer term) and expected outcomes strategies or methodologies, including contingency strategies schedule, milestones, benchmarks.

Certificate IV & Diploma Health and welfare

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
ACMEQU422 Maintain and monitor horse health		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, QLD & NSW 	FS Reading: change to 'Identify and interpret veterinary or medical instructions relevant to health care requirements' PE bullet 1 change to 'implemented the scheduled routine...'	Thank you for the feedback. Adopted suggested changes: PC2.1 & PE & KE- minor edits to reflect feedback FS - Reading reworded for clarity.
ACMEQU424 Evaluate equine service or therapy provision		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, QLD & NSW 	PE bullet 1c change to: 'equine dental technician' bullet 1g change to: 'alternative or complementary therapies' KE bullet 4b remove 'physiotherapy' bullet 4g change to: 'alternative or complementary therapies'	Thank you for the feedback. Adopted suggested feedback.
ACMEQU502 Manage horse health care		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, QLD & NSW 	PC2.3 change to 'and/or treatment' PC3.1 replace 'urgent' with 'immediate' PC3.5 add in 'infectious and' zoonotic disease FS Reading change to: 'Interpret key information in technical texts and treatment records related to equine health care' PE bullet 4c replace 'urgent' with 'immediate'	Thank you for the feedback. Adopted suggested feedback

Clipping

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
ACMEQU425 Provide horse clipping services		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, QLD & NSW 	APP and throughout remove references to 'carer' put in prerequisite ACMEQU2X12 Handle horses safely PC1.3 add to end 'including potential need for an assistant' Move 3.2 to E1 PC2.2 update sedation PC add PC on using smaller clippers where appropriate as an alternate to using sedation	Thank you for the feedback. Adopted suggestions. Removed references to 'carer'. Added prerequisite <i>ACMEQU212 Handle horses safely</i> . Element 1 split into 2 and PCs reorganised to reflect validation feedback KE - new points added:

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
	<p>move PC4.2 to be 3.2</p> <p>Add in KE for: Add in removing food/fed and water from area, hair could end up in there</p> <p>Also use of smaller clippers, possible rash after clipping and dealing with clients</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'strategies for dealing with horses that are difficult to clip, including sedation, • support from an assistant, selection of clipping equipment • reasons for removal of feed and water • types of clips and when they are used (list from PE) • strategies for dealing with clients'.

Saddle and gear fitting

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
ACMEQU419 Evaluate saddlery and gear fit for horse and rider combination		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Industry, WA 	<p>PC2.7 add in 'fitting' to: '...make necessary fitting adjustments...'</p> <p>PE bullet 3 add in 'fitting' to: '...recommendations on fitting adjustments...'</p> <p>KE bullet 9d change 'billet alignment' to 'girth point'</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. Adopted suggested changes.</p>
ACMEQU420 Fit and adjust bits and bridles		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Industry, WA 	<p>PE change bullets 2 and 3 to: 'bit and/or bridle combination'</p> <p>KE bullet 5f add '/drop cheek'</p> <p>bullet 11 change to: key signs requiring further investigation'</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. Adopted suggested changes.</p> <p>PE bullets changed to: 'bit and/or bridle combination'.</p> <p>KE bullet 5f added '/Drop Cheek'.</p> <p>Bullet 11 changed to: 'indicators requiring further investigation of issue'.</p> <p>Added new point: 'techniques for working with clients, including clear communication, collaborative interactions and client confidentiality'.</p>
ACMEQU421 Provide saddle fitting and adjustment services		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Industry, WA 	<p>PC 5.3: these people should be making the adjustments. They should learn how to reflock. Many times it only takes a small adjustment to correct the fit. Often this service is remote, it is not practical for the reflocking to be outsourced when location of these services is far away.</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback.</p> <p>PCs 5.3 & 5.4 allow for options of adjustments, including reflocking to be undertaken or referred to repairers.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Industry, WA 	<p>PC3.8 add in: 'select and check existing or...'</p> <p>PC4.1 add to end: 'and clearance of spine'</p> <p>PC4.2 remove references to 'billets' and throughout unit</p> <p>E5 add in PC on reflocking</p> <p>PE bullet 3 add in: 'including a reflocking to balance the saddle'</p> <p>KE expand for own bullet information on reflocking including materials, techniques and tools</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback.</p> <p>Adopted suggested changes PC3.8, 4.1 & 4.2</p> <p>Revised PCs5.3 & 5.4 on adjustments and reflocking:</p> <p>5.3 Provide advice on options for making adjustments to the saddle for improved horse and rider comfort and safety</p> <p>5.4 Make fitting adjustments, reflock padding for saddle balance and/or realign saddle tree, or refer client to appropriate manufacturer or repairer</p> <p>PE revised point to include reflocking and fitting adjustments.</p> <p>New points added in KE to cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - reflocking techniques and materials - techniques for working with clients, including clear communication, collaborative interactions and client confidentiality.

Certificate IV & Diploma Fitness and performance training and education

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
ACMEQU414 Manage horses to meet sport event requirements		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry Association, National 	Support KE social licence inclusion	Thank you for the support. Adopted - confirmed support for social licence in KE.
ACMEQU415 Relate musculoskeletal system to horse conformation and movement		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry Association, National 	PE remove pony (not appropriate to specify) and saddle and bit references (why list only these specific service providers and not others, this is better in KE). KE add in: social licence and animal welfare add in: • circumstances that require referral to relevant equine service provider, including (list practitioners).	Thank you for the feedback. Adopted suggested feedback: Removed pony and saddle and bit references from PE Included KE on social licence. Revised KE point: • 'circumstances that require referral to relevant equine service provider, including veterinarian, farrier, equine massage therapist or other body worker, gear fitter and checker and/or equine dental technician'.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry, WA & ACT 	PC1.6 remove 'established breed standards and' 3.7 change 'as' to 'is' PE bullet 3c remove 'breed standard and/or' KE bullet 1 add in new sub bullet: • function and anatomy of fascial sheaths	Thank you for the feedback. Adopted suggested feedback.
ACMEQU416 Manage presentation of horses for sale or show		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry Association, National 	PE clarified number of horses to be 'at same and/or different sale or show even' Support KE social licence inclusion.	Thank you for the feedback. Adopted suggested feedback. PE minor edit/clarification adopted: 'at same and/or different sale or show event'. KE social licence added.
ACMEQU418 Select horses based on analysis of pedigree		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry Association, National 	Support KE social licence inclusion	Thank you for the feedback. Adopted suggestion. Addition to KE point: • 'animal welfare relating to the safe, humane and ethical care of horses, including the concept of social licence to operate'.
ACMEQU505 Manage fitness in horses		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry Association, National 	Support KE social licence inclusion add in: • key features of a conditioning program, including: • individual horse information • fitness methods, nutrition, timelines, contingent strategies, goals/desired outcomes, milestones/benchmarking points	Adopted suggestions - new KE point. • 'key features of a conditioning or fitness program, including: • information about individual horse • program goals (short and longer term) and expected outcomes • strategies or methodologies, including contingency strategies • schedule, milestones, benchmarks'.

Certificate IV Education

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
ACMEQU411 Evaluate horse education methodologies and individual programs		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry Association, WA 	PE bullet 1 - clarify wording add - suitable/ to achieve specific outcome KE pt 6 - add temperament pt 9 add specific	Thank you for the feedback. Adopted suggestions. PE changed to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 'researched, developed and documented suitable horse education methodologies and techniques to achieve specific outcome' KE changed to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 'key features horse temperament, conformation and biomechanics for intended use' 'equipment, gear and resource requirements for specific education programs'
ACMEQU412 Interpret and address horse behaviour and welfare		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry Association, WA 	Suggested edits/clarifications provided for PCs 1.1, 1.2 & PE - deleted abnormal and replace with variations to normal behaviour 2.4 - add 'and level of education' 4.1 - add environment KE - add pt1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> gender level of education last pt - in rural, semi-rural and semi-urban locations	Thank you for the feedback. Suggestions adopted, changes made to following PC's: PC1.1 'Observe and handle horses to recognise normal, undesirable and other variations of behavioural signs in individual horses' PC1.2 'Identify likely causes of undesirable and variations to normal behaviour' PC2.4 'Reinforce safe handling techniques and strategies to minimise risks associated with horse behaviour and level of education to handlers, and/or riders, drivers and clients' PC4.1 'Evaluate impact of current environment, work and management practices on horse behaviour and welfare' KE - suggested edits adopted
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, QLD 	PC 4.3 suggested adding social licensing	Thank you for the feedback. KE - point added to address 'concept of social licence to operate' added to KE for consistency with other units.

Equine Dentistry

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
ACMEQD501 Relate equine masticatory system to oral function, conditions and their health impacts		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, NSW 	I support title number two. Relate equine masticatory system to oral function, conditions and their health impacts.	Thank you for the feedback. Suggestion adopted.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry, NSW 	I support title number two. Relate equine masticatory system to oral function, conditions and their health impacts.	Thank you for the feedback. Suggestion adopted.

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, VIC 	<p>Paragraph in the Application Statement, first sentence: 'The equine dentistry industry expects oral care and dental treatments are undertaken according to current industry practices.' This statement is unnecessary in a unit of competency. The unit is the industry standard developed with industry input.</p> <p>The next sentence advises that: 'The Companion Volume: User Guide: Equine Allied Health provides delivery and assessment information tailored for equine dental technicians and detailed guidelines relating to anatomical requirements and industry expectations.' This advice is repeated in the Assessment Conditions. Is it necessary to therefore appear in the Application?</p> <p>PC 1.2, and last dot point in the performance criteria: Use of the term 'industry accepted' - how would this be determined?</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. Suggestion adopted. Paragraph 3 removed.</p> <p>PC1.2 changed to 'appropriate notation system'.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry, NSW 	<p>suggested title: Inspect the equine masticatory system and assess the oral function, conditions and their health impacts</p> <p>PE bullet 3: wording is not clear. It suggests the practitioner only has do the following 1, when it should state that this is the minimum requirement for documentation of each of the 12 cases</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. More respondents preferred title: Relate equine masticatory system to oral function, conditions and their health impacts. PE wording clarified: 'For each of the twelve equine oral examinations, the individual must have carried out the following:'</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry Association, WA 	<p>PE mentions a young horse is less than 5 years. Does this need to be consistent across other units such as ACMNEW5X9 and ACMNEW5X8</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. PE changed to less than 6 years. Other new units refer to maturity of musculoskeletal system.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry, WA 	<p>support draft</p>	<p>Thank you for the support.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry, WA 	<p>Preferred title: Relate equine masticatory system to oral function, conditions and their health impacts</p> <p>PE bullet 5 change 'determined' to 'estimated' KE bullet 2 add new sub bullet: 'innervation & blood supply to various structures of the head' KE bullet 7g change to 'associated structures' 9e change to 'erupt normally)', Can alter eruption path => displaced tooth or complete obstruction [rare & in my experience normally related to tumours] bullet 11e change to 'teeth and their normal occlusal angles &</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. Title updated.</p> <p>Minor edits adopted.</p>

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
	<p>surface ridges'</p> <p>bullet 15 add new sub bullet: 'excessive smoothing of occlusal surfaces'</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry, NSW & VIC Industry Association, National 	<p>title: Relate equine masticatory system to oral function, conditions and their health impacts</p> <p>APP: support removal of third paragraph</p> <p>PC1.2 & PE change 'industry accepted' to 'appropriate'</p> <p>PE change second paragraph to: 'For each of the twelve equine oral examinations, the individual must have carried out the following'</p> <p>bullet 3 change 'determined' to 'estimated'</p> <p>KE bullet 2 new sub bullet: '*innervation and blood supply to various structures of the head'</p> <p>bullet 7g change to '...and associated structures'</p> <p>bullet 9e add in 'erupt normally'</p> <p>bullet 11e change to: '*teeth and their normal occlusal angles and surface ridges'</p> <p>bullet 15 change 'consequences' to 'outcomes'</p> <p>bullet 15 add new sub bullet: '*compromised integrity and functional anatomy of the teeth'.</p>	<p>Adopted suggested edits from validation meeting.</p>
ACMEQD502 Conduct assessment of equine masticatory system and plan dental treatment		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry Association, National 	<p>Performance Criteria.</p> <p>N° 3 : Conduct Oral and Dental Examination. (and palpating the tempromandibular joint, TJM, to access for sensitivity) .</p> <p>This task is a gimmick; these are trigger points that we all have, push on your own temple and it hurts and so it is the same with the horse!</p> <p>There are NO connecting nerves that run into the TMJ and so no one can make a decisive conclusion that the horse has a " headache " .</p> <p>If some one questions you about this, go up to them and palpate their temples, hard .</p> <p>When they scream and pull away, tell them they obviously have a problem with their TMJ !!!! 😊</p> <p>My second point is in Foundation Skills, under description.</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback.</p> <p>PC3.1 revised with detail removed: 'Inspect equine head for symmetry, swellings or other abnormalities using safe handling techniques'</p> <p>KE added: 'palpation techniques, including for temporomandibular joint (TMJ), temporalis, masseter and medial pytergoid muscles'</p> <p>FS - thank you for supportive feedback.</p>

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use terminology and concepts appropriate for the audience. This is possibly one of the most important facts when communicating with a client. They have no idea of all the technical terms for all the issues that we deal with ; if your speaking with a Vet, then yes but the general public, definitely a "No". It does need to be explained in Laymans terms for the client to fully understand exactly what is going on in the mouth and to be able to form some sort of picture as to the issues going on with their horse. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, NSW 	KE. Dot point 8. Typo. 'explorers'	Thank you for the feedback. Typo corrected.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry, NSW 	KE. Dot point 8. Typo. 'explorers'	Thank you for the feedback. Typo corrected.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, VIC 	<p>Paragraph in the Application Statement, first sentence: 'The equine dentistry industry expects oral care and dental treatments are undertaken according to current industry practices.'</p> <p>This statement is unnecessary in a unit of competency. The unit is the industry standard developed with industry input.</p> <p>The next sentence advises that: 'The Companion Volume: User Guide: Equine Allied Health provides delivery and assessment information tailored for equine dental technicians and detailed guidelines relating to anatomical requirements and industry expectations.'</p> <p>This advice is repeated in the Assessment Conditions. Is it necessary to therefore appear in the Application?</p> <p>PC 4.2: Use of the term 'industry accepted' - how would this be determined?</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. Suggestion adopted, paragraph 3 removed.</p> <p>PC4.2 changed to 'appropriate notation system'.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry, NSW 	PC5.1 'profile': what does this mean?	Thank you for the feedback. PC5.1 - wording changed to: 'Consider dental examination findings in conjunction with use, wellbeing and history of equine'.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry, NSW 	KE bullet 3: The above is difficult to teach and assess. Lawyers and veterinarians have issues with the interpretation and administration of the regulations and legislation of 3 and 4 different areas across 7 different states in Australia let alone	<p>Thank you for the feedback.</p> <p>KE point - Changed bullet level to emphasise that scope of practice and treatments requiring referrals may vary according to legislation/regulations:</p>

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
	<p>forcing RTO's to be responsible for such. This is restrictive and unrealistic. Suggest to simply by stating that local regulation and legislation is to be followed.</p> <p>AC bullet 2b change to: noting that where equines need to be sedated, local regulation and legislation is to be followed Reason: I believe the veterinarian is only legally responsible for their specific actions. Care should be taken not to misrepresent the law or fact. bullet 3b change to: • registered veterinarian for sedation of and or the medical welfare of the equine, where required by local legislation and regulation required</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'key requirements of relevant state/territory legislation, regulations and codes of practice for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • veterinary practice legislation • restricted acts of veterinary science • poisons legislation and supply, possession and use of restricted and controlled substances • scope of practice relevant to jurisdiction types of treatments referred to a registered veterinarian or other appropriate service provider <p>AC - reworded and agreed as outcome of validation meeting and in conjunction with the ACM IRC decision: 'noting that where equines need to be sedated, sedation must be administered according to state/territory legislation by, or under the sponsorship of, a registered veterinarian.'</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Industry, WA 	<p>PC2.2 veterinarian contact: This is unnecessary, all that is required is to follow state/territory legislation relating to sedation.</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. PC2.2 reworded according to agreed outcome of validation meeting and in conjunction with the ACM IRC decision: 'Follow required protocols within relevant state/territory legislation relating to sedation and advise client to contact their registered veterinarian regarding the administration of sedation, if sedation is assessed as necessary'.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Industry, WA 	<p>PC5.1 remove word 'profile' 5.2 remove word 'expected' FS Numeracy: On it's own the statement didn't make sense / relate to anything KE bullet4c add 'incisor' at start 4j add 'acquired' at start and remove 'developmental' KE bullet 6e change to 'zoonotic disease notification procedures'</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. Suggestions adopted except for 4j, the SMEWG advised to leave as is.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Industry, NSW & VIC • Industry Association, National 	<p>support removal of third paragraph PC2.2 add in 'regarding the administration of sedation,' 4.2 change 'industry accepted' to 'appropriate' 5.1 change 'profile' to 'wellbeing' 5.2 remove 'expected' support FS update PE bullet 1c change to: ' ...advised client to contact their registered veterinarian for the administration of sedation according to relevant state/territory legislation' KE bullet 3 support new sub bullet: '•equine health condition, including evidence of abnormal pathology' bullet 4i remove 'acquired' AC bullet 2a change to: '...sedation must be administered</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. Adopted agreed suggestions in validation meeting. Wording regarding sedation in PCs, PE and AC modified as an outcome of the validation meeting and in conjunction with the ACM IRC decision.</p>

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
	<p>according to state/territory legislation by, or under the sponsorship of, a registered veterinarian'</p> <p>bullet 3b change to: '...if assessed as necessary, according to the requirements of relevant state/territory legislation'.</p>	
ACMEQD503 Perform equine dental treatment and oral care using appropriate instrumentation		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, NSW 	<p>PE section.</p> <p>I strongly disagree with the inclusion of the statement – noting that procedures undertaken on a sedated equine are under the responsibility of the registered veterinarian.</p> <p>I have explored the legality of this statement extensively for my own insurance purposes and it has been made very clear to me that sedating veterinarians are responsible for the safe sedation and welfare of the horse relating to sedation. If a fee for service treatment provider is providing treatment under that sedation, then they are responsible for that treatment. Hence the need for individual insurance.</p> <p>I feel that this statement should NOT be included as it could create future issues. It has no place under the Performance Evidence section.</p> <p>Unless Skills Impact can secure legal evidence supporting this statement (which would require legal interpretation of all State and Territory Veterinary legislation) it would be prudent to remove it.</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback.</p> <p>PE point - statement deleted as the need to follow relevant state/territory regulatory requirements is stated in a previous point.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry, NSW 	<p>PE section.</p> <p>I strongly disagree with the inclusion of the statement – noting that procedures undertaken on a sedated equine are under the responsibility of the registered veterinarian.</p> <p>Why I strongly disagree is that this was designed by the veterinary dentists and supported by their relevant associations to pressure the veterinarians who were working with equine dentists not to work with them as it then became their responsibility. This is a deceitful practice as a builder is not responsible for the plumbers work and vice versa.</p> <p>I have had personal involvement with this where several years ago the Nsw AVA and veterinarian dentists were trying to show fault to the relevant Nsw government Minister of the lay dentists as a review of the vet act regulations was coming up. The purpose was to have powered instruments a vet dentists only.</p> <p>They found a horse I had done several months previous and attributed its behaviour to the dentistry I had performed. My attendant vet was duly found guilty and fined. To appeal this conviction he had to find \$24,000 and there was no way he</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback.</p> <p>PE point - statement deleted as the need to follow relevant state/territory regulatory requirements is stated in a previous point.</p>

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
	<p>would have won the AVA kangaroo court justice. He was a vet of 48 years of practice and had worked with me for over 20 years. The lengths that these vet dentists were prepared to go to to shut us down was extraordinary and it is still apparent at this time.</p> <p>To me any Cert IV accredited dentist should be independent, licensed and responsible for, the relevant S4's drugs they require to carry out 95% of the work we do and then work with a veterinarian for the more invasive procedures that require S8's or other expertise.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, VIC 	<p>Paragraph in the Application Statement, first sentence: 'The equine dentistry industry expects oral care and dental treatments are undertaken according to current industry practices.'</p> <p>This statement is unnecessary in a unit of competency. The unit is the industry standard developed with industry input.</p> <p>The next sentence advises that: 'The Companion Volume: User Guide: Equine Allied Health provides delivery and assessment information tailored for equine dental technicians and detailed guidelines relating to anatomical requirements and industry expectations.'</p> <p>This advice is repeated in the Assessment Conditions. Is it necessary to therefore appear in the Application?</p> <p>Knowledge evidence – 3rd dot point: Use of the term 'industry accepted' - how would this be determined?</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. Suggestion adopted. Paragraph 3 removed.</p> <p>KE point changed to: '• anatomical guidelines for equine dental treatments'</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry, NSW 	<p>APP first paragraph: remove 'post assessment'</p> <p>PC3.4: The original PC as written is not accurate across all states</p> <p>PC3.5 & 3.6 change 'required' to 'necessary' (the word required implies legislation and or regulation)</p> <p>4.2 change 'length and angle' to 'malocclusions appropriately' insert after 4.2/reorder:</p> <p>'4.4 Address canine teeth and minimally buff or round as required conserving physiological integrity and functional anatomy of the teeth</p> <p>4.5 Remove supragingival calculus (tartar) from teeth as necessary</p> <p>3.7 Fit and remove a speculum according to health, safety and animal welfare considerations and treatment plan'</p> <p>4.7 change 'remove digitally loose wolf teeth or refer to</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback.</p> <p>APP - edit adopted</p> <p>PCs - changes adopted</p> <p>Wording regarding sedation in PCs, PE and AC modified as an outcome of the validation meeting and in conjunction with ACM IRC decision.</p> <p>3.5 and 3.6 – 'required' changed to 'necessary'.</p> <p>Reordering of PCs:</p> <p>3.7 moved to 4.5</p> <p>4.3 moved to 4.4</p> <p>4.4 moved to 4.3</p> <p>4.3 moved to 4.6</p>

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
	<p>veterinarian' to 'treat' change 4.8 to: Address cheek teeth malocclusions and remove sharp points protuberant to soft tissue without compromising functional occlusal surface while conserving the physiological integrity and functional anatomy of the teeth 6.2 include 'if necessary' at end</p> <p>PE bullet 1e change to: • removed wolf teeth (first premolars) or referred to an appropriate practitioner bullet 2a change 'cnserving' to 'maintaining' bullet 2b change to: '• functional equilibration has been achieved by distributing...' new bullet 2e: • functional occlusal table angles have been re established and or maintained bullet 7: I do not believe this is an accurate statement according to law. It has no value or purpose in this document. It has been continually noted that all activities are to be done in accordance with local regulation and legislation. That is the only statement that should be acknowledged in this document. KE bullet 4: The above is difficult to teach and assess. Lawyers and veterinarians have issues with the interpretation and administration of the regulations and legislation of 3 and 4 different areas across 7 different states in Australia let alone forcing RTO's to be responsible for such. This is restrictive and unrealistic. Suggest to simply by stating that local regulation and legislation is to be followed. KE bullet 7e add in after - 'health' AC edits to change sedation statements</p>	<p>4.7 - digitally loose wolf teeth - no change as supported by the SMEWG. 4.9 (former 4.8) reworded to: 'Address cheek teeth malocclusions and remove sharp points protuberant to soft tissue without compromising functional occlusal surface while conserving the physiological integrity and functional anatomy of the teeth'</p> <p>6.2 added 'when necessary' to end.</p> <p>PE - minor edits adopted and new point added: • functional occlusal table angles have been re-established and/or maintained</p> <p>Repeated reference to sedation (referral to vet) removed as covered in a previous point</p> <p>KE - minor edits adopted.</p> <p>AC - wording changes to reflect outcome from validation meeting and in conjunction with the ACM IRC decision.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry, WA 	<p>PE bullet 7 noting statement: I don't believe this is the case legally, therefore it should be removed so there is no confusion over who is responsible for the dental work performed. To suggest a veterinarian is responsible for the outcome of the dental service provider's work will only hinder the willingness of veterinarians to provide sedation services. KE bullet 14h: Assess and remove wolf teeth. (adherence to state/territory legislation is already assumed)</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback PE point reworded (section on 'noting' removed)</p> <p>KE point about wolf teeth retained as supported by the SMEWG.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry, WA 	<p>PC 4.1 add on: & frequently cooling the teeth to mitigate unavoidable heat generation PC6.2 change 'if necessary' to 'when necessary' FS Numeracy bullet 2: not sure how this is numeracy PE bullet 2a change to: '...of the teeth, ensuring vital tooth</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. Suggested edits adopted.</p>

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
	<p>tissues have not been exposed' add in 'if possible' to new PE bullet 2e 'functional occlusal table angles have been re-established if possible and/or maintained' KE bullet 8 change 'requirements' to 'indications' 10e add on at end: & mitigate inevitable heat production 11g: This is much bigger topic than you would think & beyond the scope of this level. If required => referral to dental veterinarian 13b add in: 'soft tissue trauma & thermal..'</p>	<p>KE point 11g retained as it is KE, not PE, as supported by the SMEWG.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry, NSW 	<p>PC4.2 change 'length and angle' to 'malocclusions' 4.7: Treat wolf teeth (first premolars) according to agreed treatment plan 4.10 change 'as required' to 'if necessary'</p> <p>PE bullet 1e change to: 'removed wolf teeth (first premolars) or referred to an appropriate practitioner' PE bullet 5 change to 'determined the need for sedation, and if required, advised the owner strictly according to relevant state/territory legislation relating to sedation'</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback Element 4 - minor edits to PCs adopted</p> <p>PE original points about wolf teeth retained as supported by the SMEWG.</p> <p>Points referring to sedation modified as an outcome of the validation meeting and in conjunction with the ACM IRC decision.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry, NSW & VIC Industry Association, National 	<p>APP remove 'post assessment' support removal of third paragraph PC3.4 add: '...regarding the administration of sedation' PCs3.5, 3.6, 4.11 (was 4.10) & 6.2: change 'as required' to 'if necessary' 4.1 change to: 'Use appropriate technique and instruments for treatment, minimising generation of heat from motorised handpieces, if used' 4.2 change 'length and angle' to 'malocclusions' reorder PC's 4.4, 4.5, 3.7 and 4.3 to be 4.3-4.6 4.9 (was 4.8) change to 'Address cheek teeth malocclusions and remove sharp points protuberant to soft tissue without compromising functional occlusal surface and while conserving the physiological integrity and functional anatomy of the teeth' PE bullet 2a change to: '• all corrections made to the teeth were done conserving the physiological integrity, anatomy and functionality of the teeth, ensuring vital tooth tissues have not been exposed ' bullet 2 new sub bullet supported: '•functional occlusal table angles have been re-established if possible and/or maintained' bullet 5 support new wording: '...contact their registered veterinarian for the administration of sedation according to relevant state/territory legislation' bullet 5 agree removal of 'noting' text as duplicated above</p>	<p>All suggested changes discussed and adopted in meeting. Wording re sedation in PCs, PE and AC followed up after meeting and in conjunction with the ACM IRC decision.</p>

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues	Consideration and Proposed Resolution
<p>KE bullet 3 change to: 'anatomical guidelines and requirements ..' bullet 9 new sub bullet: '• techniques to mitigate and minimise heat generation from use of motorised instruments including frequent cooling of the teeth ' AC support updated sedation statements.</p>	

Massage Therapy

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
ACMEQU508 Relate equine anatomical and physiological features to equine health care requirements		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry, WA & ACT 	<p>APP and throughout, keep references to 'disease, illness and injuries' not 'ailments'</p> <p>change 'equines' to 'horses' throughout document, aside specified areas</p> <p>APP change to 'describe their potential impact...'</p> <p>PC1.2 change to: 'Explain anatomical orientation terminology'</p> <p>2.3 remove 'relevant key equine anatomical systems'</p> <p>KE bullet 8 change to: '*range and role of different equine allied health practitioners'</p>	<p>Adopted suggested edits from validation meeting. Minor edits made to ensure consistency across the unit.</p>
ACMEQU509 Conduct assessment for equine massage therapy		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry, WA & ACT 	<p>PE bullet 1b change horse age to 6-8</p> <p>KE bullet 6 add in new sub bullet: • function and anatomy of fascial sheaths</p> <p>AC add in user guide Equine Allied Health.</p>	<p>Adopted suggested edits from validation meeting.</p>
ACMEQU510 Provide equine massage therapy services		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry Association, WA 	<p>PE notes a mature horse 5 years or older. Does this need to be consistent across other units such as ACMNEW5X8 and ACMEQD5X1</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback.</p> <p>Mature horse (relating to skeletal structure) changed to 6-8 years based on the SMEWG advice.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry, WA & ACT 	<p>APP change first paragraph to '...relieve and/or prevent muscular and/or related abnormal physical conditions'.</p> <p>PE bullet 2 change horse age to 6-8</p> <p>bullet 6 change to: '*demonstrated the following massage techniques using appropriate pressure:'</p> <p>bullet 9 change 'three' to 'two' for consistency</p> <p>KE bullet 6 add in new sub bullet: • function and anatomy of fascial sheaths</p> <p>AC add in user guide Equine Allied Health</p>	<p>Adopted suggested edits from validation meeting.</p>
ACMEQU511 Develop and implement an equine rehabilitation program		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry, WA & ACT 	<p>change 'equine' to 'horse' throughout unit aside from title</p> <p>PC1.3 change 'profile' to 'an overview of horse'</p> <p>PE remove bullet 2 and keep in KE</p> <p>KE bullet 4 change to 'evidence-based principles, techniques and contraindications for...'</p> <p>AC add in live equines to resources</p>	<p>This feedback was received during the validation meeting and these changes have been reflected in the updated draft units.</p>

Diploma

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
ACMEQU503 Manage international opportunities for horses		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry, NSW RTO, NSW Industry Association, National 	KE bullet 6 add in: 'and biosecurity including vaccination' add in contingencies and risk assessment and strategies	Thank you for the feedback. Adopted suggested feedback, KE points expanded: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 'insurance and biosecurity, including vaccination requirements covering all aspects of travel for staff and horses formats for cost-benefit analysis and business plan, including risk assessment and contingency measures'
ACMEQU506 Manage legal, insurance and business aspects of horse establishments		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry, NSW RTO, NSW Industry Association, National 	PC4.1 remove duplicated 'purchase' KE bullet 1e add in: and animal welfare add in workers rights, social licence to KE and PE	Thank you for the feedback. Adopted feedback suggestions: PC4.1 remove duplicated 'purchase'. KE points expanded/added: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 'employment regulations and workplace laws responsibilities regarding workplace health and safety, biosecurity and environment and animal welfare, including the concept of social licence to operate concept of duty of care relevant to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> imposed by Law of Torts and health and safety legislation and codes of practice, including person conducting a business or undertaking (PCBU)'
ACMEQU507 Work within an equine allied health provider framework		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry, NSW 	In unit <i>ACMEQU5X10 Work within an equine allied health provider framework</i> the PC's (performance criteria) 1, 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, PE's, KE's and assessment conditions all cover Australian legislations and regulations specific to the equine dental industry including all concerns regarding veterinary practice etc. To have other units continually require the same, similar or similar variations of this is clearly over assessing of this area.	Thank you for the feedback. This unit is a core unit in the Diploma of Equine Allied Health and applies to massage therapists as well as equine dental technicians. Similar content is included in the EQD units. RTOs can cluster units for delivery and assessment.

Proposed units of competency for deletion

The follow units of competency are supported to be deleted:

- ACMEQU101 Approach and catch horses
- ACMEQU302 Apply knowledge of minimising impact of falling from a horse
- ACMEQU303 Demonstrate riding techniques for avoiding falls and reducing the impact of falls
- ACMHBR306 Provide information on horses
- ACMPHR407 Implement an equine facility maintenance, improvement and management program
- ACMPHR408 Educate and train performance horses.

User Guides

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
Safety in Equine Training		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RTO, NSW 	<p>I assume this code which inform PCBU's of their responsibilities has been taken into consideration by the SMEWG. Code of practice SafeWork NSW 2018 Instructors/coaches Knowing how to ride does not necessarily make a person competent to instruct/coach new or inexperienced riders. The PCBU should ensure an instructor/coach has a current recognised qualification relevant to the type of horse activities being taught and has a good understanding of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • safe work procedures for every step in riding and horse handling activities • communication • teaching skills in a logical process • risk management • horse control • group control • the basics of how horses learn • first aid requirements and emergency response • horse health and care • record keeping requirements <p>CODE OF PRACTICE – MANAGING RISKS WHEN NEW OR INEXPERIENCED RIDERS OR HANDLERS INTERACT WITH HORSES IN THE WORKPLACE 17 There are a number of recognised qualifications, skill sets and units of competency available for people intending to instruct on horse handling and/or riding. Some organisations within the horse industry provide nationally recognised instructor/coach qualifications. These include training providers regulated by the Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) and the National Coaching Accreditation Scheme. Specific groups that may require an instructor/ coach with additional recognised qualifications, knowledge and skills include people with a disability. Specialist instruction and coaching levels are available specifically for those teaching riding to people with a disability. Only those who hold these coaching qualifications should teach people who</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. The requirements of the NSW Code of Practice relates to instructors/coaches (Trainers) but does not specifically mention Assessors. Feedback has been received from several stakeholders that the Assessment Conditions can only be used legitimately to add requirements for Assessors, and therefore, the advice covered by the Code of Practice has been included in the <i>User Guide: Safety in Equine Training</i>. It is also worth noting that the Code of Practice is state based and cannot be mandated for use in other states and territories.</p> <p>For the three revised ACM Riding units, the <i>User Guide: Safety in Equine Training</i> has recommendations for Trainers and/or assessors that include additional qualifications and experience to help ensure that the training and assessment of these units is effective and safe.</p>

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
	have a type of disability that might impact on their ability to manage a horse.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, WA 	<p>I think the changes to the trainer qualifications for riding/exercising units will certainly cover a broad field in training of riders, especially the beginner levels. I like that you have covered individual units of certain specification as acceptable and also included HSA, as well as EA coaching to be accepted as suitable coaching qualifications for the riding/exercising units. HSA have a very high standard when assessing their coaches through the clinics but are probably also the most dedicated when it comes to all aspects of making sure their coaches have a strong safety awareness in all aspects and levels of riding and handling (inclusive of environment, people on the ground and working/riding of horses) during assessment of their coaches.</p> <p>Are the qualification requirements for the riding/exercising changes going to be in the unit descriptor as well. I think you'll find it easy for people not to fulfil the qualification requirements if they are only in the guide lines. I feel it really important if these changes are being made that they be under everyone's nose, in order for no mistakes to be made, as they have, and continue to be missed.</p> <p>Thanks, it should probably also go into the Cert II & III in Horse Care modification in the area of the riding etc units, as at least this is read fully by everyone, as well as the individual unit descriptor. At least this way, there can be no ignorance when delivering the qualification.</p>	<p>Thank you for supportive comments regarding the trainer and assessor specific requirement in the <i>User Guide: Safety in Equine Training</i>. The Specific Assessor Requirements are in the Assessment Conditions (AC) in the three revised riding units, which is the prescribed way to mandate these additional items. The AC refers the RTO/Assessor to the <i>User Guide: Safety in Equine Training</i> for more specific information on the options available to meet the Specific Assessor Requirements.</p>
Equine Allied Health		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry, VIC 	<p>Comment that they have 230 contact days with at least 8 dental technicians for hands on experience.</p>	<p>Noted - section added to User Guide p24.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RTO, VIC 	<p>page 28 - Statement that 'Abnormal pathology must be completely documented'. Should that critical advice be in the relevant unit of competency?</p> <p>Page 14 Prerequisite units. The advice is the prerequisites, mostly related to safety when interacting with horses have been embedded in the units. Just a comment that there are also two</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. <i>User Guide: Equine Allied Health</i> - extra sentence added to p31 to reflect feedback comment.</p> <p>KE - point relating to abnormal pathology added to ACMEQD502 and ACMEQD503</p>

Stakeholder Comments and Identified Issues		Consideration and Proposed Resolution
	safety units (or equivalent) required for entry into the Diploma of Allied Equine Health (i.e. pre-existing safety skills and knowledge required for entry).	
• Industry, NSW	Clarified query on p30 - 'yes' minor change, added brackets: 'Severe single tooth (primary) strikes are not acceptable. Small single tooth (secondary) strikes are not ideal and should be re assessed.'	Thank you for the clarification. Minor edit made.
• Industry, WA	<p>Would be happy if we could insist on this for dentistry.... Has been made a Diploma afterall. ACMEQU417 Advise on horse nutritional needs ACMEQU420 Fit and adjust bits and bridles</p> <p>Add in these recommendations to the User Guide p23</p> <p>P29 #6 teeth change 'smoothed' to 'rounded' p30 add text on end: 'This measurement/distance is considered functional occlusion of the cheek teeth arcades & should be performed on both sides' Defects, traume and thermal damage change to: 'This may cause pulp necrosis [death] and eventually result in abscessation of the tooth. Or the compromised pulp becomes physiologically...'</p>	<p>Thank you for the feedback. <i>User Guide: Equine Allied Health</i> - adopted suggested minor edits. <i>ACMEQU417 Advise on horse nutritional needs</i> is a mandatory component for equine dental technician stream. <i>ACMEQU420 Fit and adjust bridles</i> retained as an elective. Agreed in validation meeting by the SMEWG.</p>
• Industry, WA	<p>The Companion Volume User Guide: Equine Allied Health had already closed and was not available for feedback.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • page 43 - any reference to veterinarians being responsible for or the only authorised persons to sedate and/or use/administer pharmaceuticals need to be removed except where this is necessary and appropriate in an assessment or training environment. In all other references in all other documents related to this course it should simply refer to sedation and/or pharmaceuticals being administered according to state/territory legislation, allowing this course to be relevant across all states and territories of Australia 	<p>Thank you for the feedback. P19 wording checked and confirmed as appropriate. Minor edits made for consistency with units ACMEQD502 & ACMEQD503.</p>