



**Australian Government**

**Assessment Requirements for ACMVET501  
Manage nursing requirements for  
specialised surgical procedures**

**Release: 1**

# Assessment Requirements for ACMVET501 Manage nursing requirements for specialised surgical procedures

## Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 2.0.

## Performance Evidence

An individual demonstrating competency must satisfy all of the elements and performance criteria in this unit.

There must be evidence that the individual has managed nursing requirements for at least two different specialised surgical procedures covering two species, and for each procedure has:

- evaluated pain prior to sedation and anaesthetic choice under supervision of a veterinary surgeon
- monitored:
  - fluid therapy plan under supervision of a surgeon
  - mucous membrane colour
  - heart rate and rhythm
  - pulse rate and quality
  - rectal temperature
  - respiratory rate and effort
- prepared one animal and theatre for specific surgical procedures, including at least two of these procedures:
  - thoracotomy
  - abdominal surgery
  - cystotomy
  - spinal surgery
  - orthopaedic surgery
- managed theatre requirements and overseen the cleaning and maintenance requirements of surgical equipment, including at least two of these:
  - endoscope
  - laparoscope
  - arthroscope
  - electrosurgical unit/diathermy
  - ECG

- ventilator
- suction equipment
- maintained hygiene and infection control standards to reduce the risk of contamination, infection and cross-infection in surgical, pre-and post-operative contexts
- performed the activities outlined in the performance criteria of this unit during a period of at least 240 hours of work in a veterinary hospital or veterinary practice where specialist surgical procedures are regularly performed.

## Knowledge Evidence

An individual must be able to demonstrate the knowledge required to perform the tasks outlined in the elements and performance criteria of this unit. This includes knowledge of:

- anaesthetic routines and anaesthetic types, including gaseous and injectables
- animal anatomy and physiology related to specialised surgical procedures
- specialised and anaesthetic surgical equipment and instruments and how to use each one, including:
  - anaesthetic equipment
  - blood pressure monitoring equipment
  - capnographs
  - catheters
  - wound drains
  - electrocardiogram (ECG)
  - electrosurgical units
  - endoscopes
  - fluid therapy pumps
  - heated operating tables
  - laryngoscopes
  - oesophageal stethoscopes
  - orthopaedic equipment including drills and saws
  - pulse oximeters
  - scavenger
  - suction pumps
  - syringe driver
  - ventilators
- Australian Standard for cleaning, disinfecting and sterilising re-useable medical and surgical instruments and equipment and maintenance of associated environments in health care facilities
- intravenous fluid therapy, radiographic and other imaging routines relating to specialised surgical routines
- pain management and sedation medications and techniques
- how to recognise emergencies

- state or territory legislation and regulations relating to the practice of veterinary science, work health and safety and animal welfare relevant to surgical procedures
- state or territory legislation covering the use of therapeutic and controlled substances in surgical procedures and nursing care
- processes involved, equipment used and nursing duties in specialised surgical procedures, including thoracotomy, abdominal surgery, cystotomy, spinal surgery and orthopaedic surgery
- specialised surgical nursing theatre routines
- specialised bandages and their use
- workplace hygiene standards, disinfectants and sterilisation, cleaning agents, cleaning techniques and cleaning equipment and materials required in pre-and post-surgical procedures.

## Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
  - in the workplace or an environment that accurately reflects a veterinary hospital or surgery
- resources, equipment and materials:
  - a range of real patients
  - equipment, instruments and resources typically available for veterinary surgery, including specialised equipment used for intra-operative care
- specifications:
  - access to organisational policies and procedures, current legislation, regulations and relevant codes of practice
- relationships (internal and/or external):
  - interactions with a registered veterinarian who is at a minimum a Member of the Australia and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists (ANZCVS), and who regularly performs advanced surgical procedures on animals.

Assessors of this unit must satisfy the requirements for assessors in applicable vocational education and training legislation, frameworks and/or standards.

## Links

Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: -  
<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=b75f4b23-54c9-4cc9-a5db-d3502d154103>