



Australian Government

**Assessment Requirements for ACMVET506
Perform emergency procedures to sustain
life**

Release: 2

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 2	This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 4.0.
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:

- handled a minimum of five emergency situations and patients, including (for each):
 - dealt with animals gently and calmly and exhibited appropriate care for animals so that stress and discomfort was minimised
 - maintained hygiene and infection control to reduce the risk of infection and cross-infection during emergency life support situations
 - worked as a member of a team and worked closely with the supervising veterinarian in emergency life support situations
- carried out triage procedures for a minimum of two animals
- demonstrated cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) procedures on a minimum of two occasions, on a real or model animals
- demonstrated procedures for haemorrhage control on a minimum of one occasion, on a real or model animal
- successfully intubated a minimum of one patient, under supervision
- performed the activities outlined in the performance criteria of this unit during a period of at least 240 hours of work in a veterinary practice.

Knowledge Evidence

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

- anaesthesia and anaesthetic agents in emergency procedures

- animal anatomy and physiology related to emergency situations, animal health status assessment and monitoring and emergency procedures
- animal first aid techniques
- safety risks of:
 - animal bites, kicks, scratches, crush injuries
 - biological hazardous waste and sharps disposal
 - handling of chemicals and medicines
 - inhalation of aerosol particles
 - intraocular contamination
 - manual handling including carrying, lifting and shifting
 - needle stick injury and cuts from other sharps
 - zoonosis
- visual assessment techniques to observe and report on animal condition and health status to the veterinarian, including:
 - level of consciousness
 - external bleeding
 - swelling
 - ataxia
 - body guarding
 - behaviour
 - vocal sounds
 - abnormal body, head or limb presentation
 - presence, colour, texture and volume of discharge from any orifice
- manual assessment techniques to observe and report on animal condition and health status to the veterinarian, including:
 - temperature
 - pulse
 - respiration
 - capillary refill
 - hydration status
 - pupillary reflex
 - mucous membrane colour
 - pain or guarding on palpation
- nursing support required in first aid procedures to sustain life, including:
 - performing CPR
 - defibrillation
 - hemorrhage control
 - open-chest cardiac massage
 - tracheostomy procedure
 - providing intravenous fluid therapy under veterinarian direction

- techniques involved in:
 - applying direct digital pressure or pressure bandages
 - clearing airway
 - giving oral fluids for caustic ingestion
 - identifying poison evidence for snakes, toads, ticks, rat bait, snail bait, flea collars and organophosphate pesticides
 - supporting penetrating foreign bodies
 - supporting fractures
 - ventilation and cardiac compression techniques
 - emergency drug and fluid administration
 - monitoring patients during and post resuscitation
- critical care procedures
- safe handling techniques for trauma patients
- medications and therapies for emergency procedures and first aid
- emergency situations that may result from specific clinical conditions
- intravenous fluid therapy applications in emergency medicine
- state or territory legislation and regulations relating to the practice of veterinary science, work health and safety and animal welfare in relation to emergency and first aid procedures
- triage purpose, procedures and priorities for emergency situations that are life threatening
- CPR procedures and protocols in line with current industry standards.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of the skills in this unit of competency must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - in the workplace or an environment that accurately reflects a veterinary surgery where emergency and critical care procedures are regularly performed by veterinarians
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - a range of real animals in need of emergency care
 - equipment, instruments and resources typically available to perform critical care procedures
- specifications:
 - access to organisational policies and procedures, current legislation, regulations and relevant codes of practice
- relationships (internal and/or external):
 - supervision by a registered veterinarian who regularly performs emergency and specialised critical care procedures.

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>