



Australian Government

RGRPSH308 Provide first aid and emergency care for horses or other equines

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with RGR Racing and Breeding Training Package Version 2.0.

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to measure and record vital signs of horses or other equines, identify and report signs of common illnesses and injuries, provide emergency care and follow first aid policies and procedures.

The unit applies to individuals who work in a broad range of occupations in horse-related or other equine-related industries, carrying out work under broad direction within industry guidelines.

All work must be carried out to comply with workplace procedures, in accordance with applicable state/territory animal welfare and workplace health and safety legislative requirements.

No licensing or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Unit Sector

Performance services horse (PSH)

Elements and Performance Criteria

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
1. Recognise and report signs of ill health or injury in horses or other equines	1.1 Inspect incident site and assess risks prior to helping horses or other equines 1.2 Measure and record temperature, pulse and respiration in line with

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	<p>appropriate first aid procedures</p> <p>1.3 Observe and report hydration levels and capillary refill in line with appropriate first aid procedures</p> <p>1.4 Observe, identify and report signs of common illnesses in horses or other equines in line with appropriate first aid procedures</p> <p>1.5 Observe, identify and report signs of shock in horses in line with appropriate first aid procedures</p> <p>1.6 Determine and report signs of common injuries in horses or other equines according to workplace policies and procedures</p>
2. Assess illnesses or injuries in horses or other equines	<p>2.1 Assess threat to life of illness or injury, and incorporate into plan of action</p> <p>2.2 Calm, restrain and/or quarantine horses or other equines using safe and ethical handling techniques</p> <p>2.3 Follow first aid policy and procedures with respect to obligations to owners, state regulations, stable policy and duty of care</p> <p>2.4 Follow referral or reporting procedures for injury, treatment and emergency care according to workplace first aid procedures</p>
3. Apply basic first aid to horses or other equines	<p>3.1 Use restraints and safe and ethical handling techniques to prevent further injury or to apply first aid to horses or other equines</p> <p>3.2 Clean wounds and protect from further contamination or injury in line with appropriate first aid procedures</p> <p>3.3 Apply bandages for management of bleeding, swelling and wounds in line with appropriate first aid procedures</p> <p>3.4 Control swelling using appropriate techniques and materials in line with appropriate first aid procedures</p> <p>3.5 Nurse horse or other equine to reduce impact of shock, distress and pain in line with appropriate first aid procedures</p> <p>3.6 Monitor behaviour and vital signs, and record observations and treatments in line with appropriate first aid procedures</p>
4. Respond to hoof and leg illnesses and injuries	<p>4.1 Inspect feet and legs for signs of injury, soreness or foreign bodies</p> <p>4.2 Identify common injuries and ailments to hooves, feet and legs</p> <p>4.3 Apply poultice to affected area in line with appropriate first aid practices</p> <p>4.4 Determine damage or irregular condition and fit of shoes</p>

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
5. Assess health and fitness of horses or other equines	5.1 Implement pre-race and post-race or activity assessment of horse or other equine for injuries, distress, health and fitness 5.2 Apply pharmaceutical or therapeutic treatments under trainer or veterinary or equine health practitioner instructions and supervision 5.3 Identify and follow industry rules relating to prohibited substances and alternative treatments

Foundation Skills

This section describes those language, literacy, numeracy and employment skills that are essential for performance in this unit of competency but are not explicit in the performance criteria.

Skill	Description
Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interpret textual information in workplace procedures and veterinary and medical instructions relating to the health and welfare of horses Locate and interpret key information in medication labels
Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use clear language and accurate industry and/or medical terminology for reporting and recording horse health and welfare information
Numeracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Perform basic calculations and measurements of volume, weight and ratios to determine doses of medication
Navigate the world of work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow workplace procedures, including safety, animal welfare and first aid administration requirements, and meet expectations relating to own role and area of responsibility
Interact with others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow accepted industry practices and protocols for working collaboratively with and reporting horse health issues to supervisors and specialists
Get the work done	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor horse condition, assess health and injury irregularities and make decisions to initiate routine treatment or seek specialist advice and assistance

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title	Code and title	Comments	Equivalence status

current version	previous version		
RGRPSH308 Provide first aid and emergency care for horses or other equines	RGRPSH308A Provide first aid and emergency care for horses	Updated to meet Standards for Training Packages. Minor changes to title and performance criteria.	Equivalent unit

Links

Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet -
<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=5c4b8489-f7e1-463b-81c8-6ecce6c192a0>
<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=5c4b8489-f7e1-463b-81c8-6ecce6c192a0>