## ACMMIC4X05 Implant microchip in animals

#### Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to aseptically implant identification devices in a range of animals, including cats and dogs, with minimum discomfort to the animal.

The unit applies to workers in the animal care industry where it may be necessary to implant microchips in animals for identification and traceability purposes. Individuals may include veterinary practitioners, veterinary nurses, nominated employees and managers of animal welfare agencies, local government animal officers and shelter managers, animal technicians or supervisors in animal research laboratories, and animal control officers.

It includes requirements for preparing and checking equipment and devices, procedures for implantation and record keeping and provision of advice to owners or keepers.

**Licensing, legislative, regulatory requirements**

This unit of competency is used by regulatory authorities in some jurisdictions for issuing authorities/permits. Additionally, legislation applies to veterinarians in relation to the implantation of identification devices in animals of varying species, but varies according to state/territory jurisdictions. Users must check with the relevant authorities before delivery.

#### Pre-requisite unit Nil

#### Unit sector

Microchipping (MIC)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Elements** *Elements describe the essential outcomes.* | **Performance criteria**  *Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.* |
| 1. Prepare for microchip implantation | 1.1 Identify key statutory, local authority and insurance requirements associated with microchipping animals  1.2 Explain details of the procedure to the owner  1.3 Relate anatomical and physiological structures and functions to implantation procedures as well as likely migration sites for chips on animal body  1.4 Ensure that microchip implantation workspace is appropriate for the needs of the species  1.5 Follow relevant legislation and Australian Standards for implantation and scanning devices |
| 2.  Prepare equipment | 2.1 Inspect and check implantation equipment  2.2 Locate and verify readiness of first aid equipment for animal and humans  2.3 Select and check electronic reader against a reference chip  2.4 Check microchip to be implanted to confirm it meets relevant Standards and legislative requirements, and scan serial number against packaging number |
| 3. Prepare animal for implantation | 3.1 Obtain and record prescribed identifying information  3.2 Assess animal for behavioural problems and refer animal to veterinarian where unmanageable fear or aggressive tendencies are identified  3.3 Obtain owner permission to restrain the animal, if owner present, and select and fit animal restraint device according to animal welfare and regulatory requirements  3.4 Use personal protective equipment (PPE) according to workplace procedures  3.5 Observe animal for indicators of health and wellbeing, identify signs of ill health and ascertain from animal owner the animal's existing or previous health conditions that may be affected by microchip implantation  3.6 Scan animal to check if previous implantation has occurred, and complete legislative and industry actions for previously implanted microchip if required |
| 4. Undertake implantation procedure | 4.1 Check implantation site for abnormalities and refer owner to veterinarian in the event of observed concerns  4.2 Position animal for implantation, considering animal welfare, animal size, species, behavioural assessment, and work health and safety (WHS) risks  4.3 Inspect injection site and prepare for procedure using aseptic techniques according to industry standards  4.4 Prepare the implanting device while maintaining asepsis  4.5 **Prepare the insertion site according to species-specific requirements, stabilise the tissue appropriately, and insert the needle at the recommended angle and depth for safe microchip placement.**  4.6 **Discharge the microchip fully into the designated tissue location, withdraw the needle carefully, and confirm the microchip has been released, under the supervision of a veterinary surgeon.**  4.7 Dispose of needles in an approved sharps container  4.8 Complete post-implantation workplace hygiene clean-up procedures  4.9 Assess injuries sustained to humans and provide first aid treatment and seek medical attention if required  4.10 Assess injuries sustained to animals and provide first aid treatment and seek veterinary attention if required |
| 5. Conduct post-implantation procedures | 5.1 Visually check implantation site and scan to ensure correct functioning of microchip  5.2 Provide post-implantation advice to owner, handler or keeper  5.3 Note animal condition and seek veterinary assistance if there are signs of adverse reactions  5.4 Explain to owner the processes undertaken by animal registry services, and distinguish from registering with local government/council  5.5 Impress importance of maintenance of ownership records to owner/keeper, and provide procedure to be followed in the event of loss of animal |
| 6. Maintain records in accordance with legislative requirements | 6.1 Record procedure using prescribed identifying information, including identification of implanter  6.2 Forward documentation to relevant animal registry services  6.3 Maintain and file copy of records for specific implanter |

#### Foundation skills

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Learning** | **Reading** | **Writing** | **Oral communication** | **Numeracy** |
| 3 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 3 |

**Assessment Requirements**

**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:

* implanted a microchip in a minimum of 6 animal simulation models including 3 different species
* implanted a microchip, under the supervision of a registered veterinarian, in 6 live animals of varying ages, breeds and temperaments, including:

2 cats – one must be conscious

2 dogs – one must be conscious

remaining 2 can be other species where legislation allows and either conscious or unconscious.

Performance must be demonstrated in a workplace or an environment where microchip identification device implantation is carried out on real animals.

**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:

* anatomical and physiological structures and functions related to implantation procedures, including implantation locations and likely migration sites for chips on animal bodies
* animal temperaments and behaviours and the associated hazards and risks related to microchip implanting and appropriate animal control measures
* aseptic techniques
* implantation techniques and methods for different species including:

dogs and cats

birds

small domestic mammals such as rabbits and guinea pigs

equines

* key requirements of current Australian Standards (AS) covering electronic animal identification and microchip compliance regulations, including:

*AS 5018 Electronic animal identification – National coding scheme*

*AS 5019 Electronic animal identification – Radiofrequency methods*

* animal medical conditions and first aid techniques related to microchip implanting
* first aid procedures for implanter
* suspected animal health conditions that should be referred to a veterinary practitioner
* indicators of health, stress and wellbeing in animals
* signs of adverse reactions, including:

haemorrhage

infection

redness, heat, pain and swelling at the implantation site

seizures

shock

subcutaneous lumps

* industry terminology and features used to identify animals
* selection and use of PPE
* possible legal and animal welfare consequences resulting from poor quality implantation
* procedures for the safe manual handling of live animals
* appropriate restraint methods
* professional indemnity and public liability insurance requirements
* information to be documented in relation to the identification of animals and implantation of microchips
* registration processes of animal registries
* processes to deal with previously microchipped animals, including second microchip for animals
* client confidentiality and privacy of information relating to personal details
* range of implanting equipment and sources of microchips and readers
* relevant legislation, regulations and codes of practice, including work WHS, animal welfare and ethics, microchip implantation, domestic animal management and waste disposal
* workplace safety and hygiene standards, including:

disinfectants, cleaning agents, techniques, equipment and materials

sharps disposal and procedures for needlestick injuries.

**Assessment conditions**

Skills must be demonstrated in a workplace or an environment that accurately reflects an animal care workplace where the implantation of microchips is carried out on real animals under the supervision of a veterinarian, authorised by the relevant jurisdiction to implant microchips.

Microchip implantation of an animal must be postponed if there have been two unsuccessful attempts on the one animal, during the one day, or in accordance with the relevant state or territory legislation.

Assessment must ensure access to:

* real animals and animal models as specified in the Performance Evidence
* equipment and resources typically available in an animal care workplace where microchips are implanted
* manufacturer operating instructions for equipment
* organisational policies and procedures and current Australian Standards as specified in the Knowledge Evidence
* supervision by a registered veterinarian

Assessors of this unit must satisfy the requirements for assessors in applicable vocational education and training legislation, frameworks and/or standards. Assessors must also be authorised implanters according to relevant state/territory regulations.

#### Unit mapping information

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Code and title current version** | **Code and title previous version** | **Equivalence status** | **Comments** |
| ACMMIC4X05 Implant microchip in animals | ACMMIC401 Implant microchip in cats and dogs | Not equivalent | Licencing statement changed from ‘Regulatory requirements apply to this unit’ to ‘Legislative, regulatory and licensing requirements all apply to this unit’ as some states/territories require premises/individuals to be authorised implanters or to access animal registers.  PC1.1 removed ‘cats and dogs’  PC2.2 changed from ‘Inspect and access first aid equipment for animals and humans’ to ‘Locate and verify readiness of first aid equipment for animal and humans’  PC3.5 changed from ‘Assess health of animal’ to ‘Observe animal for indicators of health and wellbeing, identify signs of ill health and ascertain from animal owner the animal's existing or previous health conditions that may be affected by microchip implantation’ to remove any perception of diagnosing an animal’s health, and incorporating foundation skill.  PCs 4.5 and 4.6 changed to accommodate techniques to implant in broader range of animals where implantation may not be subcutaneous.  Change to volume of PE  Added to KE:  aseptic techniques  implantation techniques and methods for different species  Reworded ‘conditions that should be referred to a veterinary practitioner upon suspicion of health problems’ to ‘suspected health conditions that should be referred to a veterinary practitioner’  Remove reference to specific ‘version’ of AS (which has been superseded) and replace with ‘key requirements of current Australian Standards (AS)’ |

### Overview information

#### Modification History

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Release** | **Comments** |
| 1 | This unit of competency was first released in ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Release 7.0. |

**Mandatory workplace requirements:**

Mandatory workplace requirements apply to this unit of competency and are specified in the Performance Evidence and Assessment Conditions of the Assessment Requirements.