## ACMVET5X23 Provide nursing support for advanced veterinary dental surgery

#### Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to provide nursing support for advanced veterinary dental surgery.

It applies to veterinary nurses who work under the direction and supervision of a registered veterinarian who performs dental surgical procedures. Veterinary nurses completing this unit will typically have nursing experience and graduates will provide specialised assistance during complex dental surgeries.

This including preparation of theatre, equipment and instruments, perioperative patient care, intraoperative support, and client communication relating to patient care and home nursing requirements.

**Licensing, legislative, regulatory requirements**

Legislative and regulatory requirements relating to the scope of veterinary nursing practice including in supporting dental surgical procedures vary according to state/territory jurisdictions. Users of this unit must confirm current requirements with the relevant regulatory authority before delivery.

#### Pre-requisite unit Nil

#### Unit sector

Veterinary Nursing (VET)

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| **Elements** *Elements describe the essential outcomes.* | **Performance criteria**  *Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.* |
| 1. Admit patient | 1.1 Compile patient dental history  1.2 Coordinate referral and associated documentation, if required  1.3 Collate dental pathology and diagnostic results |
| 2. Prepare theatre for dental surgery | 2.1 Prepare theatre furniture and equipment  2.2 Display patient images for the scheduled procedure  2.3 Access and check dental equipment and sterile dental packs  2.4 Complete gloving and gowning procedures |
| 3. Prepare patient for dental surgery under the direction and supervision of the surgeon | 3.1 Comply with work health and safety (WHS) and animal welfare requirements and infection prevention and control (IPC) policies and procedures related to dental procedures  3.2 Apply specific anaesthetic procedures under supervision of veterinarian  3.3 Assist with administration of pre-operative medications  3.4 Position patient and apply restraints  3.5 Examine endotracheal tube to ensure it is functioning and apply pharyngeal pack |
| 4. Prepare specific materials and anticipate veterinarians’ requirements | 4.1 Prepare specific dental materials for the scheduled procedure  4.2 Anticipate progress of surgery and respond to veterinarian’s requirements  4.3 Hand instruments, equipment and materials to the veterinarian as requested using aseptic techniques  4.4 Provide specific dental surgical support as instructed  4.5 Record details of procedure, medications administered and other information required by organisational policies and procedures in patient file |
| 5. Undertake post-operative theatre procedures | 5.1 Dispose of non-reuseable instruments and equipment, clinical and other hazardous waste according to organisational policies and procedures  5.2 Clean or sterilise instruments and equipment  5.3 Store packed instruments and equipment  5.4 Identify damaged and ineffective instruments, equipment and their attachments and replace or set aside for repair or maintenance  5.5 Complete maintenance routines for instruments and equipment |
| 6. Communicate with client and discharge patient, as instructed by veterinarian | 6.1 Report patient progress to client  6.2 Communicate specific home nursing requirements to client  6.3 Provide instructions on administering prescribed medications to client |

#### Foundation skills

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| **Learning** | **Reading** | **Writing** | **Oral communication** | **Numeracy** |
| 4 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 5 |

**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 provided nursing support on a minimum of four occasions for at least three of the following dental procedures:

* periodontics
* endodontics
* restorative dentistry
* oral surgery
* prosthodontics
* orthodontics
* exotic animal dentistry.

Performance must be demonstrated in a veterinary practice, hospital or specialist centre where advanced dental surgery is performed, or an environment that accurately reflects a veterinary practice, hospital or specialist centre where advanced dental surgery 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:

* anatomy and physiology related to dental health and procedures for animals including canine, equine, feline and other exotic animals
* animal, including species specific, dental health issues and management
* dental procedures and related industry terminology in periodontics, endodontics, restorative dentistry, oral surgery, prosthodontics, orthodontics and exotic animal dentistry
* veterinary dental personal protective equipment, gloving and gowning procedures
* principles of animal welfare and ethics related to dental health and surgical procedures
* requirements of state or territory legislation and regulations relating to work health and safety, animal welfare and waste management associated with dental health and surgical procedures
* requirements of state or territory legislation covering the use of therapeutic and controlled substances for dental health and surgical care
* identification and purpose of surgical dental materials, including:

pins

plates

prosthesis

restorative materials

screws

sutures

wire

* prophylactic strategies used in veterinary dental care
* pre-and post-surgery advice and information for clients
* veterinary dental instruments and equipment and their uses, including:

air-driven dental base, including high and low speed hand pieces

electric dental handpieces

saline irrigation systems

rotary endodontic systems

electric or pneumatic surgical drills

oral retractors

elevators

chisels and curettes

curing lights

endodontic files

forceps

pharyngeal packs

radiograph displays

sterile dental packs

suction equipment

surgical instrument trays and trolleys

ultrasonic dental scalers

* veterinary dental equipment maintenance routines, including:

calibration

cleaning

disassembly

drying

packing and oiling

reassembly

re-stocking

sharpening

* workplace hygiene standards, disinfectants and sterilisation, cleaning agents, cleaning techniques and cleaning equipment and materials related to dental surgical procedures
* aseptic techniques
* organisational policies and procedures relating to patient record keeping, waste disposal and WHS.

**Assessment conditions**

Skills must be demonstrated in a veterinary practice, hospital or specialist centre where advanced dental surgery is performed, or an environment that accurately reflects a veterinary practice, hospital or specialist centre where advanced dental surgery is carried out on real animals.

Assessment must ensure access to:

* a range of real animals requiring advanced dental surgical procedures
* equipment, instruments and resources typically available in a veterinary dental practice or hospital, including specialised dental equipment
* organisational policies and procedures, current legislation, regulations and relevant codes of practice related to veterinary nursing scope of practice, , WHS, animal welfare and use of dental, sterilisation and other equipment
* safety data sheets (SDS) for cleaning, disinfecting or sterilising agents, if required
* simulated or real clients for admission and discharge.

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

#### Unit mapping information

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| **Code and title current version** | **Code and title previous version** | **Equivalence status** | **Comments** |
| ACMVET5X23 Provide nursing support for advanced veterinary dental surgery | ACMVET504 Provide veterinary dental nursing support for advanced veterinary dental surgery | Equivalent | Minor change to unit title  Wording of Application changed to remove reference to supervision by MANZCVS as dental surgeries beyond simple tooth extraction is being undertaken by registered veterinarians.  Legislative, licensing and regulatory language updated to specify dental practices.  Minor changes to Elements and Performance Criteria, including:  Element 1 changed from ‘Carry out admission procedures’ to ‘Admit patient’  PC1.2 added ‘if required’ as not all veterinary dental surgery may be referred to specialist surgeons  Delete PC3.1, as is knowledge evidence  Minor rewording of PC3.2 (now PC3.1) from ‘Comply with WHS, infection control and animal welfare requirements related to dental health procedures’ to ‘Comply with work health and safety (WHS) and animal welfare requirements and infection prevention and control (IPC) policies and procedures related to dental procedures’  PC3.4 added ‘administration of’ PC4.3 added ‘using aseptic techniques’PC4.5 reworded from ‘Take and maintain record of procedure’ to ‘Record details of procedure, medications administered and other information required by organisational policies and procedures in patient file’  PC4.6 moved to Element 5  Element 5 reworded from ‘Clean, store and maintain dental instruments and equipment’ to ‘Undertake post-operative theatre procedures’  PC5.1 (previously 4.6 Dispose of clinical and other hazardous waste appropriately) reworded to ‘Dispose of non-reuseable instruments and equipment, clinical and other hazardous waste according to organisational policies and procedures’  Element 6 added ‘as instructed by veterinarian’  Performance Evidence – remove bullet points following actual required performance as duplication of performance criteria  Removed specific number of hours of performance required, whilst maintaining requirement for performance to be demonstrated in a workplace.  Minor changes to knowledge evidence  Added electric dental handpieces, saline irrigation systems, rotary endodontic systems, oral retractors and electrical/pneumatic surgical drills to dental instruments and equipment  Removed amalgamator saws and sonic dental scalers from dental instruments and equipment  Added aseptic techniques and organisational policies and procedures relating to patient record keeping, waste disposal and WHS. |

### Overview information

#### Modification History

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| **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.