The following draft information is an extract of what will be included in the ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Companion Volume Implementation Guide (TP CVIG) Release 7.0.

This draft information is available for feedback. The revised content will be available during the next consultation phase.

Implementation information

Industry sectors and occupational outcomes of qualifications

The *ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package* includes units of competency from the following industry sectors.

| Sector Code | Sector |
| --- | --- |
| GEN | General animal care |
| INF | Infection control |
| MIC | Microchipping |
| VET | Veterinary nursing |

Sector overview

**Veterinary nursing**

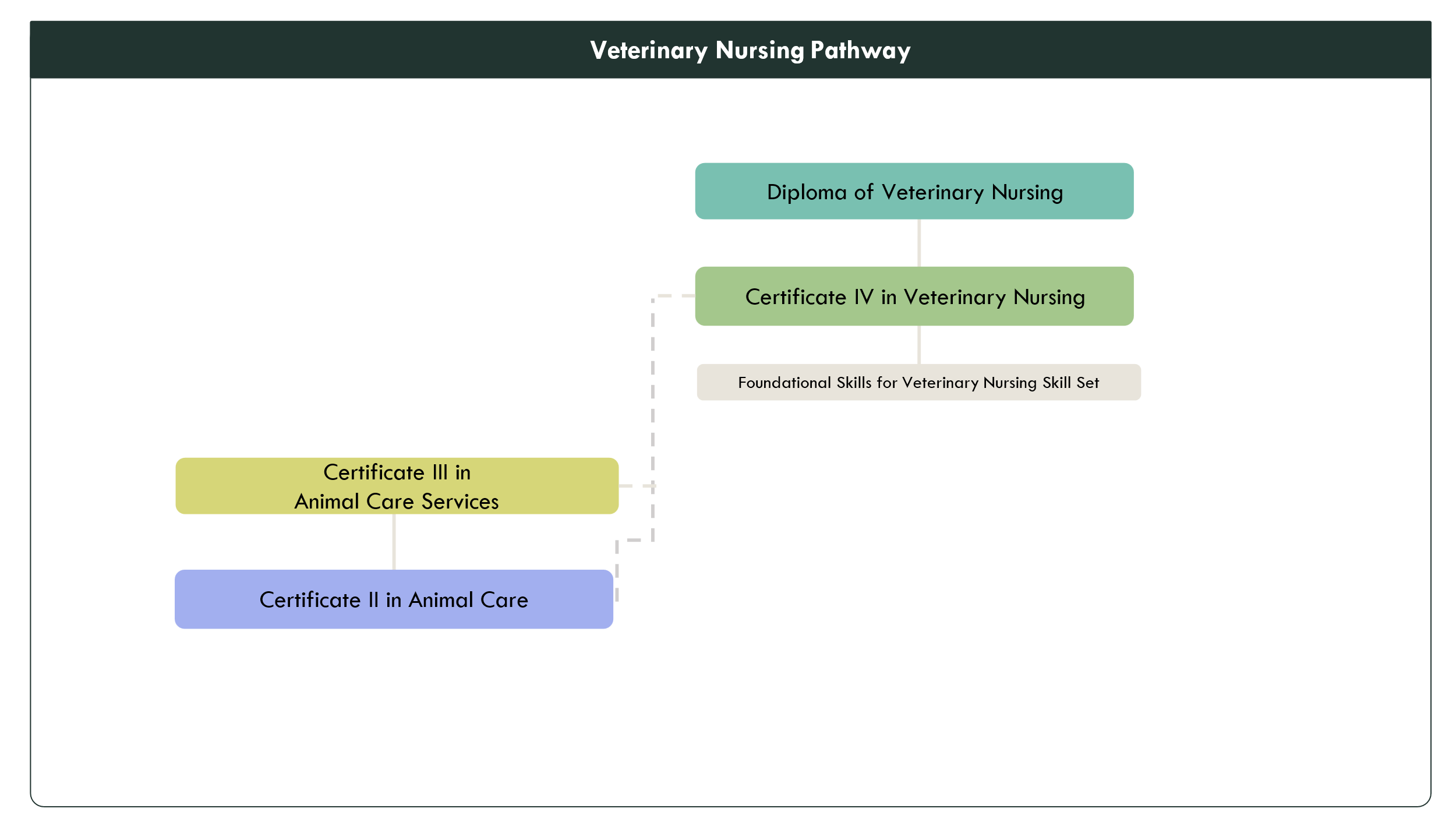
Veterinary nursing supports the delivery of veterinary services across a range of clinical and animal care settings. Veterinary nurses work under the direction of registered veterinarians to provide nursing care, assist with diagnostic and surgical procedures, support animal welfare, and contribute to the effective operation of veterinary practices. Roles and responsibilities of veterinary nurses vary considerably due to a wide range of factors, including:

* practice context, such as whether nursing is in a general practice, animal hospital, specialist centre, emergency or critical care practice or other more specific or specialised context
* practice location (rural, regional, metropolitan, remote) and species
* varying state/territory legislation relating to regulated acts of veterinary science / medicine or handling of drugs and poisons
* organisational structures and role allocations.

Two main levels of application of skills and knowledge are evident, which can broadly be referred to as ‘general veterinary nurse’ and ‘advanced veterinary nurse’, though these titles are not formally recognised by industry. The job role of ‘practice manager’ is a distinct role, benefited by but not requiring a veterinary nursing background.

Pathways charts – progression between qualifications

Qualifications have been designed to allow learners to progress into and between qualifications. The following diagram shows the various options for movement into and between qualifications in the ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Training Package.



Occupational outcomes for industry sectors

The following table lists the qualifications and provides an overview of occupational outcomes for each qualification.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Qualification | Typical occupational outcomes |
| ACM4X426 Certificate IV in Veterinary Nursing | * Veterinary nurse |
| ACM5X226 Diploma of Veterinary Nursing | * Advanced veterinary nurse * Specialist surgical veterinary nurse * Specialist emergency and critical care veterinary nurse |

Australian apprenticeships/traineeships

Apprenticeships and traineeships are legally binding training arrangements, between an employer and employee, which combine training with paid employment. Australian Apprenticeships are delivered through a cooperative arrangement between the Australian Government, state and territory governments, industry employers and RTOs. Each State or Territory Training Authority (STA/TTA) is responsible for apprenticeships and traineeships in its jurisdiction. [[1]](#footnote-2)

Industry stakeholders consider that the following qualifications may be suitable for delivery as apprenticeships/traineeships. Training package users are advised to contact the relevant STA/TTA for further advice.

• ACM4X426 Certificate IV in Veterinary Nursing

The Australian Apprenticeships website has information about traineeships and apprenticeships. Visit <www.australianapprenticeships.gov. au> for more information. STA contact details are provided in the Links section of this Implementation Guide.

VET for secondary students

Vocational Education and Training (VET) programs enable students to acquire workplace skills and knowledge while they are still at school. Successful completion of a VET program provides a student with a nationally recognised AQF qualification (or particular units of competency), usually as part of a senior secondary certificate.

Due to the complexity of skills, regulatory considerations, and workplace requirements associated with veterinary nursing roles, the Certificate IV in Veterinary Nursing and the Diploma of Veterinary Nursing are generally not considered suitable for delivery to secondary school students.

Training package users are advised to contact the relevant State or Territory Training Authority (STA/TTA) for further advice.

Entry requirements for qualifications

Any specific entry requirement for qualifications in the ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package are included in each qualification. These entry requirements ensure an individual has the skills and knowledge required to undertake the qualification. The following qualifications in the ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package have entry requirements:

* ACM4X426 Certificate IV in Veterinary Nursing
* ACM5X226 Diploma of Veterinary Nursing

The following Veterinary Nursing qualifications have entry requirements.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Qualification | Entry requirements |
| Certificate IV in Veterinary Nursing | Entry requirements will be completed here following broad consultation. Please see qualification drafts for Entry requirements. |
| Diploma of Veterinary Nursing | Entry requirements will be completed here following broad consultation. Please see qualification drafts for Entry requirements. |

Choosing electives for specialisations

Electives must be chosen to ensure the integrity and occupational outcomes of the qualification. In almost all qualifications, the packaging rules will have been deliberately written to prevent an RTO from delivering a qualification totally comprised of ‘easy options’ (i.e., to make the delivery of the qualification easier at the expense of disregarding the occupational outcomes required by the job role, workplace requirements and industry practices).

Where the packaging rules might make this possible, the RTO must structure the electives to ensure the integrity of the qualification is not compromised, and will deliver to the individual the outcomes required by the workplace and job role, not make it easier for the RTO to deliver and assess.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Qualification | Specialisation | Mandatory elective choices |
| ACM5X226 Diploma of Veterinary Nursing | Specialisations will be completed here following broad consultation | Mandatory elective choices will be completed here following broad consultation |

Training package delivery and assessment

RTOs must ensure that both training and assessment complies with the relevant standards[[2]](#footnote-3). In general terms, training and assessment must be conducted by individuals who:

* have the necessary training and assessment competencies
* have the relevant vocational competencies at least to the level being delivered or assessed
* can demonstrate current industry skills directly relevant to the training/assessment being delivered
* continue to develop their VET knowledge and skills, industry currency and trainer/assessor competence.

Assessors of some units of competency may have to meet requirements in addition to those of the 2025 Standards for RTOs/AQTF requirements for assessors.

Check the Assessment Conditions section (provided in the assessment requirements that accompany each unit of competency) for specific assessor requirements.

Some specific considerations in relation to the ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package are included below.

Information for assessment of Microchipping

To reflect an increasingly broad range of species being implanted with identification devices, including rabbits, guinea pigs, birds and, where permitted, equines, the microchipping unit has been updated and titled ‘implant microchip in animals’.

The following information can be applied to the updated unit, and it’s superseded version: ACMMIC4X05 Implant microchip in animals.

When assessing this unit, industry expectations are that the RTO will:

* ensure documented evidence is provided by the individual and includes verification by the supervising veterinarian. Each individual records all of the required details of the microchip implantations specified in the performance evidence and includes a section for the veterinarian to sign a declaration that they have witnessed and supervised the microchip implantation
* check and verify details of the microchipping implantations recorded as being accurate
* directly contact at least one of the veterinarians who oversaw a microchip implantation to verify information and discuss the supervised microchip implantation/s.

The following table provides additional detail for terms as applied in the Veterinary nursing industry.

Industry regulations and standards

All states and territories have legislation and associated regulations that restrict the duties that may be carried out by veterinary nurses. The requirements vary across jurisdictions and are outlined in the following table. Users of the units of competency coded VET and EQD and the qualifications for veterinary nursing and equine dentistry, must check the requirements before delivery.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| State/ Territory | Primary Governing Legislation | Current version & when last amended | Regulations | Current version & when last amended | Controlling department | Website |
| ACT | Veterinary Surgeons Act 2015 | Version R3 15th June 2016 | Veterinary Surgeons Regulation 2015 | Version R2 27th April 2016 | Territory and Municipal Services | <https://www.legislation.act.gov.au/a/2015-29> |
| NSW | Veterinary Practice Act 2003 | Current version from 15th July 2015 | Veterinary Practice Regulation 2013 | Current version from 8th January 2015 | Primary Industries | http://www.legislation.nsw.gov. au/maintop/view/inforce/act+87 +2003+cd+0+N |
| NT | Veterinarians Act | As in force at 1 May 2016 | Veterinarians Regulations | As in force at 1 May 2016 | Primary Industries and Fisheries | http://notes.nt.gov.au/dcm/legis lat/legislat.nsf/linkreference/VE TERINARIANS%20ACT  http://notes.nt.gov.au/dcm/legis lat/legislat.nsf/linkreference/VE TERINARIANS%20REGULATI ONS |
| QLD | Veterinary Surgeons Act 1936 | Current as at 23 September 2013 | Veterinary Surgeons Regulation 2002 | Current as at 1 July 2015 | Agriculture and fisheries | http://www.legislation.qld.gov.a u/Acts\_SLs/Acts\_SL\_V.htm |
| SA | Veterinary Practice Act 2003 | Version: 1.1.2015 | Veterinary Practice Regulations 2005 | Version: 1.1.2015 | Agriculture, food and fisheries | [https://www.legislation.sa.gov.au/LZ/C/A/ VETERINARY%20PRACTICE%20 ACT%202003.aspx](https://www.legislation.sa.gov.au/LZ/C/A/VETERINARY%20PRACTICE%20ACT%202003.aspx) |
| TAS | Veterinary Surgeons Act 1987 | Consolidated as at: 11 Feb 2015 | Veterinary Surgeons Regulations 2012 | Consolidated as at: 11 Feb 2015 | Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment | [https://www.legislation.tas.gov.au/view/html/ inforce/current/act-1987-104](https://www.legislation.tas.gov.au/view/html/inforce/current/act-1987-104) |
| VIC | Veterinary Practice Act 1997 | Version No 040 incorporating amendments as at 1 August 2015 | Veterinary Practice Regulations 2008 | Version 002 as at 1 May 2013 | Agriculture and Food Security | [http://www.vetboard.vic.gov.au/VPRBV/ Vets/Legislation/VPRBV/Vets/Legislation.aspx](http://www.vetboard.vic.gov.au/VPRBV/Vets/Legislation/VPRBV/Vets/Legislation.aspx) |
| WA \*\* | Veterinary Surgeons Act 1960 | Effective 10th December 2010 | Veterinary Surgeons Regulations 1979 | Effective 30th May 2012 | Agriculture | [https://www.legislation.wa.gov.au/ legislation/statutes.nsf/law\_a855.html](https://www.legislation.wa.gov.au/legislation/statutes.nsf/law_a855.html) |

Additional considerations and guidance for regulatory, legislative and licensing implications in veterinary nursing are included in the Companion Volume user Guide: Veterinary Nursing.

Source: *Veterinary Practice Act Review, 2016 Edition II*, prepared for the Australian Veterinary Association by Dr D Neutze

\*\* Note: In Western Australia, students are required to be approved by the Veterinary Surgeons Board and be supervised by a registered veterinary surgeon to perform the duties and veterinary services as a veterinary nurse, as set out in the Regulations 65 and 66 of the Veterinary Surgeons Regulations of 1979.

State governments oversee the maintenance of veterinary standards through registration boards and veterinary services legislation. Local governments also coordinate regulations relating to the management of companion animals, including registration, limiting the number of cats and dogs per household, compulsory sterilisation and microchipping. Legislation such as the Stock Medicines Act, the Stock Foods Act, the Poisons Act, and various other food and drug Acts control the use of poisons and specify maximum residue limits for agricultural and veterinary chemicals in human food.

Key areas where legislative and regulatory compliance is required include:

* animal welfare and ethics
* animal technology, including microbiological sampling and testing requirements
* biosecurity and quarantine procedures
* euthanasia of animals
* veterinary services regulations
* local government regulations
* use of firearms
* waste handling and disposal.

Users should be aware of who can prescribe and handle veterinary medicines:

* Australian Veterinary Association, Guidelines for Prescribing, Authorising and Dispensing Veterinary Medicines, 2005
* Therapeutic Goods Act 1989
* Poisons Standard, February 2017
* Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Medicines and Poisons (SUSMP) and relevant state and territory legislation and regulations
* Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992
* Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Act 1994
* Work Health and Safety Act 2011 in conjunction with Guidelines on use of cytotoxic drugs and related waste (Qld)
* State based OHS/WHS legislation, where relevant.

Users must also be aware of biosecurity risks, when working with animals:

* Biosecurity Act 2015, along with state/territory legislation and associated regulations.

Users must also be aware of work health and safety/occupational health and safety risks:

* Work Health and Safety Act
* State based OHS/WHS legislation, where relevant.

Health and safety legislation statements in ACM units

To allow RTOs to comply with relevant health and safety legislation, some units of competency in the ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package contain the following statement in the Application section:

The terms 'occupational health and safety' (OHS) and 'work health and safety' (WHS) generally have the same meaning in the workplace. In jurisdictions where the national model WHS legislation has not been implemented, RTOs must contextualise the unit of competency by referring to current OHS legislative requirements.

Over time this statement has been removed and replaced by the following statement:

All work must be carried out to comply with workplace procedures, in accordance with state/territory health and safety regulations, legislation and standards that apply to the workplace.

Resources and equipment list

RTOs must make sure that all resources and equipment required to train and assess units of competency are available. Details of specific resources, including equipment and materials essential for assessment, are listed in the Assessment Conditions sections of Assessment Requirements documents. Where units of competency require assessment in the workplace, the workplace must include the full range of equipment required to do the task, as listed in the Assessment Conditions.

The following additional companion volumes are available to support delivery of this Training Package

* The Veterinary Nursing User Guide contains a list of work placement and assessment requirements required for both the Certificate IV in Veterinary Nursing and the Diploma of Veterinary Nursing
* The Equine Allied Health User Guide contains delivery advice and a list of resources required for the Diploma of Equine Allied Health
* The Farriery User Guide contains a list of resources required for the Certificate IV in Farriery and the Certificate III in Equine Hoof Care
* The Animal Incident Management User Guide supports the delivery and assessment of the Animal Incident Management (AIM) units of competency in the Animal Care and Management Training Package
* The Safety in Equine User Guide assists assessors, trainers, registered training organisations (RTOs) and enterprises to deliver equine training.

Training Package Components

Please note the training product codes below are temporary codes used in the draft documents. Updated codes will be applied once the project has moved to finalisation.

Qualifications

| **Code** | **Title** | **Purpose** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ACM4X426 | Certificate IV in Veterinary Nursing |  |
| ACM5X226 | Diploma of Veterinary Nursing |  |

Skill Sets

| **Code** | **Title** |
| --- | --- |
| ACMSSXXX01 | Foundational Skills for Veterinary Nursing Skill Set |

Certificate IV in Veterinary Nursing: Units of competency

| **Code** | **Title** |
| --- | --- |
| ACMGEN3X02 | Communicate effectively in animal-related workplaces |
| ACMGEN3X03 | Maintain cleaning, hygiene and sterility standards in animal care workplaces |
| ACMGEN4X01 | Develop knowledge of animal anatomy and physiology for animal care work |
| ACMINF3X04 | Comply with infection prevention and control policies and procedures in animal care work |
| ACMMIC4X05 | Implant microchip in animals |
| ACMVET4X06 | Develop knowledge of the veterinary industry and apply to veterinary nursing practice |
| ACMVET4X07 | Triaging and responding to animal emergencies |
| ACMVET4X08 | Conduct animal care discussions with clients |
| ACMVET4X09 | Nurse animals |
| ACMVET4X10 | Prepare for and monitor anaesthesia and analgesia in animals |
| ACMVET4X11 | Perform veterinary dental nursing procedures |
| ACMVET4X12 | Perform clinical pathology procedures |
| ACMVET4X13 | Apply veterinary diagnostic imaging routines |
| ACMVET4X14 | Perform surgical nursing routines |
| ACMVET4X15 | Prepare, handle and administer veterinary medicines and restricted substances |
| ACMVET4X16 | Undertake administration and client service activities in a veterinary practice |
| ACMVET4X17 | Nurse foals |
| ACMVET4X18 | Provide intensive foal care and nursing |

Diploma in Veterinary Nursing: Units of competency

| **Code** | **Title** |
| --- | --- |
| ACMVET5X19 | Enhance professional practice in veterinary nursing |
| ACMVET5X20 | Apply veterinary nursing pathophysiology |
| ACMVET5X21 | Manage nursing requirements for specialised surgical procedures |
| ACMVET5X22 | Carry out post-operative nursing routines |
| ACMVET5X23 | Provide nursing support for advanced veterinary dental surgery |
| ACMVET5X24 | Manage veterinary nursing procedures |
| ACMVET5X25 | Apply principles of animal behaviour |
| ACMVET5X26 | Coordinate veterinary practice emergency preparedness |
| ACMVET5X27 | Perform emergency procedures to sustain life |
| ACMVET5X28 | Provide nursing support for critical care surgery |
| ACMVET5X29 | Apply advanced knowledge of anaesthesia in veterinary nursing practice |
| ACMVET5X30 | Perform medical and minor surgical veterinary procedures |
| ACMVET5X31 | Conduct veterinary nurse clinics |

Imported units of competency

The following table shows units of competency from other training packages imported into qualifications and skill sets in the *ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Release 7.0*.

| **Unit code** | **Unit title** | **Source Training Package** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| BSBPEF502 | Develop and use emotional intelligence | BSB Business Services |
| BSBSTR503 | Develop organisational policy | BSB Business Services |
| BSBSUS411 | Implement and monitor environmentally sustainable work practices | BSB Business Services |
| BSBXTW301 | Work in a team | BSB Business Services |
| CHCPRP003 | Reflect on and improve own professional practice | CHC Community Services |
| SIRXCEG008 | Manage disrespectful, aggressive or abusive customers | SIR Retail Services |
| SIRXHWB002 | Promote workplace health and wellbeing | SIR Retail Services |
| TAEDEL414 | Mentor in the workplace | TAE Training and Education |
| BSBLDR523 | Lead and manage effective workplace relationships | BSB Business Services |
| RGRHBR307 | Carry out procedures for foaling down mares | Racing and Breeding |
| TAEDEL414 | Mentor in the workplace | TAE Training and Education |

Units of competency with pre-requisites

The following table lists those *ACM* units of competency with prerequisite units of competency. Note that if a chain of prerequisites applies, then these are shown in bracketed text in the ‘Prerequisite unit code and title’ column.

| **Unit code and title** | **Prerequisite unit code and title** |
| --- | --- |
| ACMVET4X17 Nurse foals | ACMEQU212 Handle horses safely |
| ACMVET4X18 Provide intensive foal care and nursing | ACMEQU212 Handle horses safely |

Training Products with Mandatory Workplace Requirements

The following table lists those ACM units of competency with Mandatory Workplace Requirements.

| *ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Release 7.0*  *Units of competency with Mandatory Workplace Requirements* | |
| --- | --- |
| Code | Title |
| ACMMIC4X05 | Implant microchip in animals |
| ACMVET4X09 | Nurse animals |
| ACMVET4X10 | Prepare for and monitor anaesthesia and analgesia in animals |
| ACMVET4X11 | Perform veterinary dental nursing procedures |
| ACMVET4X14 | Perform surgical nursing routines |
| ACMVET4X18 | Provide intensive foal care and nursing |
| ACMVET5X20 | Apply veterinary nursing pathophysiology |
| ACMVET5X21 | Manage nursing requirements for specialised surgical procedures |
| ACMVET5X22 | Carry out post-operative nursing routines |
| ACMVET5X23 | Provide nursing support for advanced veterinary dental surgery |
| ACMVET5X24 | Manage veterinary nursing procedures |
| ACMVET5X25 | Apply principles of animal behaviour |
| ACMVET5X27 | Perform emergency procedures to sustain life |
| ACMVET5X28 | Provide nursing support for critical care surgery |
| ACMVET5X29 | Apply advanced knowledge of anaesthesia in veterinary nursing practice |
| ACMVET5X30 | Perform medical and minor surgical veterinary procedures |

Training Products with licensing, regulatory or legislative implications

| **Product code** | **Product title** | **Implication** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ACM4X426 | Certificate IV in Veterinary Nursing | This qualification is used by regulators in some jurisdictions for licencing purposes. Additionally, the permitted scope of practice for veterinary nurses is determined by state and territory legislative and regulatory requirements. Users of this qualification must refer to the relevant legislation and regulations. |
| ACM5X226 | Diploma of Veterinary Nursing | The permitted scope of practice for veterinary nurses is determined by state and territory legislative and regulatory requirements. Users of this qualification must refer to the relevant legislation and regulations. |
| ACMMIC4X05 | Implant microchip in animals | 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. |
| ACMVET4X06 | Develop knowledge of the veterinary industry and apply to veterinary nursing practice | Legislative and regulatory requirements apply to the scope of practice of veterinary nurses but vary according to state/territory jurisdictions. |
| ACMVET4X07 | Triaging and responding to animal emergencies | Legislative and regulatory requirements apply to the provision of health information or advice by veterinary nurses and permitted scope of practice in relation to the administration of first aid or other emergency treatment but vary according to state/territory jurisdictions |
| ACMVET4X08 | Conduct animal care discussions with clients | Legislative and regulatory requirements apply to the permitted scope of veterinary nursing practice, including the provision of animal health and welfare advice, and vary according to state/territory jurisdictions |
| ACMVET4X09 | Nurse animals | Legislative and regulatory requirements apply to the range of permitted veterinary nursing procedures but vary according to state/territory jurisdictions |
| ACMVET4X10 | Prepare for and monitor anaesthesia and analgesia in animals | Legislative and regulatory requirements apply to the administration of anaesthetic and analgesic agents by veterinary nurses and level of necessary veterinarian supervision but vary according to state/territory jurisdictions |
| ACMVET4X11 | Perform veterinary dental nursing procedures | Legislative and regulatory requirements apply to veterinary nurses performing dental procedures but vary according to state/territory jurisdictions |
| ACMVET4X12 | Perform clinical pathology procedures | Legislative and regulatory requirements apply to performing pathology procedures including sample collection and vary according to state/territory jurisdictions |
| ACMVET4X13 | Apply veterinary diagnostic imaging routines | Legislation and licence requirements apply to the operation of radiography equipment and handling of radioactive materials but vary according to state/territory jurisdictions. Users must check with the relevant regulatory authority before delivery. |
| ACMVET4X14 | Perform surgical nursing routines | Legislative and regulatory requirements apply to the permitted scope of work of veterinary nurses but vary according to state/territory jurisdictions |
| ACMVET4X15 | Prepare, handle and administer veterinary medicines and restricted substances | Legislative and regulatory requirements apply to the acquisition, possession, handling and use of veterinary drugs and poisons, but vary according to state/territory jurisdictions. Users must check with the relevant regulatory authorities before delivery. |
| ACMVET4X16 | Undertake administration and client service activities in a veterinary practice | Legislative and regulatory requirements apply to the acquisition, storage, handling and security of medicines, pharmaceuticals and controlled substances but vary between state/territory jurisdictions.  Regulatory requirements relating to the provision of client information, advice and support, particularly where this relates to health, treatment or regulated products also differ across jurisdictions |
| ACMVET4X17 | Nurse foals | Legislative and regulatory requirements apply to the permitted scope of veterinary nursing practice and vary according to state/territory jurisdictions |
| ACMVET4X18 | Provide intensive foal care and nursing | Legislative and regulatory requirements apply to the permitted scope of veterinary nursing practice and vary according to state/territory jurisdictions. Users of this unit must confirm current requirements with the relevant regulatory authority before delivery. |
| ACMVET5X20 | Apply veterinary nursing pathophysiology | Legislative and regulatory requirements apply to the scope of practice of veterinary nurses, specifically in relation to veterinary acts of science/medicine including diagnosing disease and prescribing and administering treatments, medicines or poisons and vary across jurisdictions |
| ACMVET5X21 | Manage nursing requirements for specialised surgical procedures | Legislative and regulatory requirements apply to the scope of veterinary nursing practice and vary according to state/territory jurisdictions. |
| ACMVET5X22 | Carry out post-operative nursing routines | Legislative and regulatory requirements apply to the permitted scope of veterinary nursing practice and vary according to state/territory jurisdictions. |
| ACMVET5X23 | Provide nursing support for advanced veterinary dental surgery | 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. |
| ACMVET5X24 | Manage veterinary nursing procedures | Legislative and regulatory requirements apply to the scope of veterinary nursing practice and vary according to state/territory jurisdictions |
| ACMVET5X25 | Apply principles of animal behaviour | Legislative and regulatory requirements apply to the scope of veterinary nursing practice and vary according to state/territory jurisdictions |
| ACMVET5X27 | Perform emergency procedures to sustain life | Legislative and regulatory requirements apply to the permitted scope of practice of veterinary nurses and vary between states and territories. |
| ACMVET5X28 | Provide nursing support for critical care surgery | Legislative and regulatory requirements relating to the scope of veterinary nursing practice vary according to state/territory jurisdictions. Users of this unit must confirm current requirements with the relevant regulatory authority before delivery |
| ACMVET5X29 | Apply advanced knowledge of anaesthesia in veterinary nursing practice | Legislative and regulatory requirements apply to the permitted scope of veterinary nursing practice and specifically the administration of anaesthetic agents and processes and vary according to state/territory jurisdictions |
| ACMVET5X30 | Perform medical and minor surgical veterinary procedures | Legislative and regulatory requirements relating to the permitted scope of veterinary nursing practice vary according to state/territory jurisdictions |
| ACMVET5X31 | Conduct veterinary nurse clinics | Legislative and regulatory requirements apply to the permitted scope of veterinary nursing practice, including the provision of animal health advice, nursing care and administration of treatments, and vary according to state/territory jurisdictions |

Mapping information

Please note all mapping information will be finalised upon completion of the project.

Qualifications

*Mapping of qualifications from* *ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Release 6.0* to *ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Release 7.0*.

| **Code and title ACM R6.0** | **Code and title AHC R7.0** | **Comments** | **Equivalence status** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ACM40418 Certificate IV in Veterinary Nursing | ACM4X426 Certificate IV in Veterinary Nursing | Description wording changed significantly. Reference to number of hours of required work placement removed from Description.  Units requiring mandatory work placement for assessment are indicated by # in the qualification.  Entry requirements have been expressed as competencies as required by the Training Package Organising Framework (TPOF) and requirements for specified qualifications or defined pathways have been removed.  Total number of units to complete the qualification remain the same, but core units reduced by 2 from 17 to 15 and elective units increased from 4 to 6.  Updates to units in both core and electives. | Not equivalent |
| ACM50219 Diploma of Veterinary Nursing | ACM5X226 Diploma of Veterinary Nursing | Significant change to qualification structure and focus/outcomes. Change to wording of application to reflect the changed focus of the qualification to advanced clinical veterinary nursing, rather than ‘practice management’.  Entry requirement changed from Certificate IV in Veterinary Nursing to express entry requirements as competencies as required by the Training Package Organising Framework (TPOF)  Total number of units required for the qualification reduced from 9 to 8.  Core units changed from 6 to 2.  Change to Elective groups/specialisations and units.  Updates to units in both core and electives. | Not equivalent |

Skill Sets

*Mapping of skill sets from* *ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Training Package Release 6.0* to *ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Training Package Release 7.0*.

| **Code and title ACM R6.0** | **Code and title ACM R7.0** | **Comments** | **Equivalence status** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Not applicable | ACMSSXXX01 Foundational Skills for Veterinary Nursing Skill Set | This Skill Set provides the foundational skills in animal care and handling to meet the entry requirements for the Certificate IV in Veterinary Nursing | Newly created |

Units of Competency

Mapping of units of competency from *ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package 6.0* to *ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Release 7.0*.

| **Code and title ACM R6.0** | **Code and title ACM R7.0** | **Comments** | **Equivalence status** | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ACMGEN314 Identify animal anatomy and physiology for animal care work | | ACMGEN4X01 Develop knowledge of animal anatomy and physiology for animal care work | Title change and change to Application wording.  PCs and elements replaced by knowledge, skills and application as per ASK template.  Knowledge of common causes of diseases or dysfunction and how they disrupt anatomy or physiology. Corresponding requirement to apply knowledge added to PE resulting in PE change from simply ‘identifying’ or classifying animals to ‘demonstrating knowledge’ of and comparing anatomy and physiologies of different species (without specifying how the knowledge is required to be demonstrated – through explanation, description etc). | Not equivalent |
| ACMGEN315 Communicate effectively with clients and team members | | ACMGEN3X02 Communicate effectively in animal-related workplaces | Title: Title change to indicate broader application beyond ‘clients and team members’ – as per the unit’s intent and broaden use beyond animal care contexts. Specifically added communication with internal (team members, supervisors etc) and external stakeholders (clients, industry personnel such as suppliers, veterinarians, regulators etc).  Application: Wording change to include summary of unit content. | Not equivalent |
| ACMINF301 Comply with infection control policies and procedures in animal care work | | ACMINF3X04 Comply with infection prevention and control policies and procedures in animal care work | Re-templated to 2025 template  Title changed to reflect industry terminology  Change to foundation skills format.  Reword PC1.1 to use standard industry terminology  Remove PC4.3 as it duplicates 4.2  Reword ‘infection control’ throughout unit to ‘infection prevention and control (IPC)’  KE: minor change to wording from ‘standard precautions for the care and treatment of all animals, regardless of their perceived or confirmed infectious status for animal care’ to ‘standard precautions for all animal care and treatment, regardless of an animal’s perceived or confirmed infectious status’  ‘cleaning product labels and safety data sheets (SDS)’ added to KE (previously in FS)  Headings removed from format of Assessment Conditions | Equivalent |
| ACMMIC401 Implant microchip in cats and dogs | | ACMMIC4X05 Implant microchip in animals | 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)’ | Not equivalent |
| ACMVET201 Assist with veterinary nursing reception duties | | ACMVET4X16 Undertake administration and client service activities at a veterinary practice | Merged with units; ACMVET202 Carry out daily practice routines, ACMVET401 Coordinate veterinary reception duties and ACMVET404 Perform practice office procedures.  Element 4 Maintain practice records according to practice policies and PC 1.3 establishing client or patient records included in this unit to reduce duplication | Not equivalent |
| ACMVET201 Assist with veterinary nursing reception duties | | ACMVET4X8 Conduct animal care discussions with clients | This unit has been merged with; ACMVET401 Coordinate veterinary reception duties, ACMVET406 Nurse animals, ACMVET408 Provide nutritional advice and support for animals, ACMVET409 Provide specific animal care advice and ACMVET508 Support veterinary practice communication and professional development.  E1Compile patient and client histories, PC1.4 complete patient admission and discharge documentation, PC 3.3 and 3.4 re provision of information about treatments, products and services to clients included in this uni. | Not equivalent |
| ACMVET202 Carry out daily practice routines | | ACMGEN3X03 Maintain cleaning, hygiene and sterility standards in animal care workplaces | Unit merged with ACMVET203 Assist with surgery preparation  PCs and elements replaced by knowledge, skills and application as per ASK template.  Unit sector changed from Veterinary Nursing (VET) specific to General (GEN) for broader application to other animal care environments beyond veterinary practices.  E1, PC2.2 and PE and KE associated with routine and non-routine cleaning and disinfection routines and disposal of waste included in this unit.  Indicative AQF level of unit increased from 2 to 3 to reflect increased emphasis on application of knowledge of role of cleaning and decontamination and associated skills for infection prevention and control. | Not equivalent |
| ACMVET202 Carry out daily practice routines | | ACMVET4X16 Undertake administration and client service activities at a veterinary practice | Merged with units; ACMVET201 Assist with veterinary nursing reception duties, ACMVET401 Coordinate veterinary reception duties and ACMVET404 Perform practice office procedures.  Element 3 Assist in stock control and practice security and associated PCs 3.1, 3.2, 3.3 and 3.4 included in this unit. | Not equivalent |
| ACMVET202 Carry out daily practice routines | | ACMVET4X09 Nurse animals | Unit merged with ACMVET406 Nurse animals, ACMVET407 Carry out medical nursing routines and ACMVET408 Provide nutritional advice and support for animals  Element 2 Carry out daily treatment of animals under veterinary supervision and associated PCs 2.1, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5 and 2.6 included in this unit which requires monitoring of vital signs, and treating animals according to veterinarian instructions and nursing care plans | Not equivalent |
| ACMVET203 Assist with surgery preparation | | ACMGEN3X03 Maintain cleaning, hygiene and sterility standards in animal care workplaces | Unit merged with ACMVET202 Carry out daily practice routines  PCs and elements replaced by knowledge, skills and application as per ASK template.  Unit sector changed from Veterinary Nursing (VET) specific to General (GEN) for broader application to other animal care environments beyond veterinary practices.  PC2.1, E4 and PE and KE associated with cleaning and disinfecting operating areas and sterilising equipment and instruments included in this unit.  Indicative AQF level of unit increased from 2 to 3 to reflect increased emphasis on application of knowledge of role of cleaning and decontamination and associated skills for infection prevention and control. | Not equivalent |
| ACMVET203 Assist with surgery preparation | | ACMVET4X14 Perform surgical nursing routines | Unit merged with ACMVET405 Coordinate and perform surgical nursing routines.  E1, PC2.2, 2.3, 2.4 and E3 associated with preparing patient for surgical procedure and assisting with gowning, preparation of and handling of surgical packs and immediate post-operative care included in this unit. | Not equivalent |
| ACMVET401 Coordinate veterinary reception duties | | ACMVET4X16 Undertake administration and client service activities at a veterinary practice | Merged with units; ACMVET201 Assist with veterinary nursing reception duties, ACMVET202 Carry out daily practice routines and ACMVET404 Perform practice office procedures.  Element 1 and PCs relating to reception included in this unit.  Removed requirement for mandatory work placement and for performance evidence activities to be performed in a veterinary practice in a specified number of hours. | Not equivalent |
| ACMVET401 Coordinate veterinary reception duties | | ACMVET4X07 Triaging and responding to animal emergencies | Unit merged with ACMVET406 Nurse animals and ACMVET510 Apply veterinary nursing pathophysiology.  Knowledge and skills specific to triage and first aid procedures has been included in this unit, including E4 (PC4.1- 4.7)  Requirement to demonstrate PE over a specified number of hours of mandatory work placement has been removed, enabling the unit to be assessed in ‘a workplace or in an environment that accurately represents real workplace conditions’  Supervision requirements clarified. | Not equivalent |
| ACMVET401 Coordinate veterinary reception duties | | ACMVET4X8 Conduct animal care discussions with clients | This unit has been merged with; ACMVET201 Assist with veterinary nursing reception duties, ACMVET406 Nurse animals, ACMVET408 Provide nutritional advice and support for animals, ACMVET409 Provide specific animal care advice and ACMVET508 Support veterinary practice communication and professional development.  PCs and elements replaced by knowledge, skills and application as per ASK template.  Element 3 Undertake admission procedure, PC 6.4 re provision of post procedure/treatment home care advice to client and Element 5 Provide grief support to client included in this unit.  Requirement to demonstrate PE in specified number of hours of mandatory work placement has been removed, noting that depending on the workplace, it may not be realistic to expect an individual to encounter all required scenarios or range or required species in the practice. | Not equivalent |
| ACMVET402 Apply imaging routines | | ACMVET4X13 Apply veterinary diagnostic imaging routines | Title changed.  Unit merged with ACMVET503 Produce veterinary dental oral cavity images.  This unit has been updated throughout to reflect inclusion of dental x-ray, removal of endoscopes and greater emphasis on radiation safety.  Legislative, licensing and regulatory language has been clarified and strengthened.  Removed requirement to perform Performance Evidence in a real workplace on real animals, enabling application of skills to be simulated using animal models. | Not equivalent |
| ACMVET403 Perform clinical pathology procedures | | ACMVET4X12 Perform clinical pathology procedures | Minor update to Application  Legislative, licensing and regulatory language has been clarified  Elements and Performance Criteria have been re-structured throughout to match workflow  Skills and knowledge for post-mortem examination have been embedded in multiple Performance Criteria’s and included explicitly in Performance Evidence  Assessment conditions clarified  Work placement hours removed | Equivalent |
| ACMVET404 Perform practice office procedures | | ACMVET4X16 Undertake administration and client service activities at a veterinary practice | Merged with units; ACMVET201 Assist with veterinary nursing reception duties, ACMVET202 Carry out daily practice routines and ACMVET401 Coordinate veterinary reception duties.  Title change and change to Application wording. Removed requirement for reception and other administrative activities to be undertaken by veterinary nurses.  PCs and elements replaced by knowledge, skills and application as per ASK template.  Removed requirement for mandatory work placement and for performance evidence activities to be performed in a veterinary practice in a specified number of hours. | Not equivalent |
| ACMVET405 Coordinate and perform surgical nursing routines | | ACMVET4X14 Perform surgical nursing routines | Unit merged with ACMVET203 Assist with surgery preparation  Title change  Changes to wording of Application to remove reference to monitoring patients under anaesthesia and reference to requiring prior knowledge of ‘surgical procedures, typically carried out in a veterinary practice or hospital’ (explicitly added to required knowledge, as this knowledge is not in other ACMVET units).  Wording changes to PC1.1, 1.3  Replace PC2.3 ‘Perform routine surgical site preparation’ with new PC2.2 Prepare patient for surgery and added ‘pre-operative patient preparation’ to knowledge evidence  PC2.5 wording changed  Order and wording of PC3.2 and PC3.3 changed. PC3.3 expanded to allow surgical assistance, such as suturing, to be provided where legal scope of work allows. Suturing techniques added to knowledge evidence.  PC3.4 re disposal of waste moved to 4.2 in element ‘perform post-operative procedures’  PC4.3 removed (included with provision of ‘discharge’ information).  Element 5 re cleaning and sterilisation removed  PE – reworded to remove duplication with PC and reference to performance of a specified number of hours. Unit still requires performance to be demonstrated in a veterinary practice, or environment were surgical procedures are carried out on real animals.  Knowledge evidence associated with cleaning removed  Suturing techniques added  CRP techniques removed as techniques for cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and emergency FA responses included in anaesthesia and analgesics unit.  Wound management, post-operative bandaging, splint and cast care removed  Remove vital signs and reflexes monitored under anaesthesia as included in the anaesthesia and analgesia unit. | Not equivalent |
| ACMVET406 Nurse animals | | ACMVET4X07 Triaging and responding to animal emergencies | Unit merged with ACMVET401 Coordinate veterinary reception duties and ACMVET510 Apply veterinary nursing pathophysiology.  E1.5 Apply animal first aid and PE: Provided animal first aid included in this unit. | Not equivalent |
| ACMVET406 Nurse animals | | ACMVET4X09 Nurse animals | Unit merged with ACMVET202 Carry out daily practice routines, ACMVET407 Carry out medical nursing routines and ACMVET408 Provide nutritional advice and support for animals  Application wording changed.  Sequence of elements changed – E2 moved to E5; E3 moved to E2 and reworded PCs. New E3 re undertaking medical procedures from ACMVET407; Merged E4 and E5. Part of E1 included in this unit.  PC5.5 added to explicitly include preparation of and administration of prescribed medication  PE updated to include merged information  KE of techniques to measure blood gases removed  Assessment conditions remove mention of Certificate IV qualified veterinary nurse.  Licensing and regulatory requirements identified explicitly. | Not equivalent |
| ACMVET406 Nurse animals | | ACMVET4X8 Conduct animal care discussions with clients | This unit has been merged with; ACMVET201 Assist with veterinary nursing reception duties, ACMVET401 Coordinate veterinary reception duties, ACMVET408 Provide nutritional advice and support for animals, ACMVET409 Provide specific animal care advice and ACMVET508 Support veterinary practice communication and professional development.  PC1.2 and1.3 re preliminary examination and client interview for admission of patient included in this unit | Not equivalent |
| ACMVET407 Carry out medical nursing routines | | ACMVET4X09 Nurse animals | Unit merged with ACMVET202 Carry out daily practice routines, AMCVET406 Nurse animals and ACMVET408 Provide nutritional advice and support for animals.  Mandatory Workplace requirements clarified.  Assessment conditions remove mention of Certificate IV qualified veterinary nurse.  Licensing and regulatory requirements identified explicitly. | Not equivalent |
| ACMVET408 Provide nutritional advice and support for animals | | ACMVET4X09 Nurse animals | Unit merged with ACMVET202 Carry out daily practice routines, AMCVET406 Nurse animals and ACMVET407 Carry out medical nursing routines  Element 3 re nutritional needs of hospitalised patients and knowledge evidence of assisted feeding methods, excluding feeding tubes, included in this unit.  Mandatory Workplace requirements clarified.  Assessment conditions remove mention of Certificate IV qualified veterinary nurse.  Licensing and regulatory requirements identified explicitly. | Not equivalent |
| ACMVET408 Provide nutritional advice and support for animals | | ACMVET4X8 Conduct animal care discussions with clients | This unit has been merged with; ACMVET201 Assist with veterinary nursing reception duties, ACMVET401 Coordinate veterinary reception duties, ACMVET406 Nurse animals, ACMVET409 Provide specific animal care advice and ACMVET508 Support veterinary practice communication and professional development.  PCs and elements replaced by knowledge, skills and application as per ASK template.  Parts of E3 included in this unit.  Requirement to demonstrate PC in specified number of hours of mandatory work placement has been removed, noting that depending on the workplace, it may not be realistic to expect an individual to encounter all required scenarios or range or required species in the practice. | Not equivalent |
| ACMVET409 Provide specific animal care advice | | ACMVET4X8 Conduct animal care discussions with clients | This unit has been merged with; ACMVET201 Assist with veterinary nursing reception duties, ACMVET401 Coordinate veterinary reception duties, ACMVET406 Nurse animals, ACMVET408 Provide nutritional advice and support for animals and ACMVET508 Support veterinary practice communication and professional development.  PCs and elements replaced by knowledge, skills and application as per ASK template.  Requirement to demonstrate PC in specified number of hours of mandatory work placement has been removed, noting that depending on the workplace, it may not be realistic to expect an individual to encounter all required scenarios or range or required species in the practice. | Not equivalent |
| ACMVET410 Carry out veterinary dental nursing procedures | | ACMVET4X11 Perform veterinary dental nursing procedures | Changes to Application wording to remove reference to ‘examining’ the patient.  Minor change to wording of legislative requirements to be specific to veterinary nurses performing dental procedures rather than just applying to veterinary nurses  E1 changed from ‘perform oral examination’ to ‘prepare for and assist with oral health assessment’. PCs 1.1 – 1.5 changed to remove reference to veterinary nurse ‘conducting examinations’ and reporting their ‘findings’, rather following procedures and instructions, setting up and assisting the veterinarian to perform the oral examination and assessment.  PC3.1 moved to 1.2. PC 3.4 and 3.6 merged to 3.4 ‘clean, including scaling, and polish teeth as directed by the supervising veterinarian’. Remove ‘following the AAVA Dental Policy and Guidelines’ included in KE as veterinarian association’s guidelines.  Changed wording of PE to replace performing oral examination with assisting with an oral health examination, and remove duplication of PC  Removed reference to specific number of hours for performing the activities in PE and replaced with  ‘Performance must be demonstrated in a veterinary practice or an environment that accurately reflects a veterinary practice where dental procedures are carried out on real animals’  KE: added dental charting systems and industry conventions (numbering systems and symbols)  Assessment conditions: wording changed.  ‘interactions with a ‘minimum of CIV qualified veterinary nurse’ removed, as dental procedures can only be performed on anaesthetised patients, and only registered veterinarian can administer anaesthesia. | Equivalent |
| ACMVET411 Prepare, deliver and review animal care education programs | | Not applicable | Unit proposed for deletion | Not applicable |
| ACMVET412 Coordinate practice promotional activities | | Not applicable | Unit proposed for deletion | Not applicable |
| ACMVET413 Prepare for anaesthesia and monitor animal anaesthesia and analgesia | | ACMVET4X10 Prepare for and monitor anaesthesia and analgesia in animals | Minor title change.  Wording of Application changed.  Change references from ‘animals’ to ‘patients’ throughout for consistency.  PC1.1 broaden ‘surgery’ to ‘treatment area’  PC2.2 Remove reference to VN ‘assessing’ animal health status, rather assisting veterinarian to do so. PC2.3 add access to ‘test results’ recorded and available.  PC2.5 Change ‘Calculate and prepare anaesthetic and analgesic drugs specific for the animal under the guidance of the veterinarian’ to ‘Prepare anaesthetic and analgesic drugs as instructed by the veterinarian’ to ensure within legislative requirement for veterinarian only to ‘prescribe’ including dose.  Remove PC2.7, as is included in KE  Reposition PC2.8 to PC1.5  PC4.4 moved to PC4.1 with minor wording change.  PC4.1 Identify, monitor and assess analgesic requirements in animals and 4.2 Provide analgesia to manage pain in animals under veterinary guidance changed to:  4.2 Communicate observations to the veterinarian to assist assessment of analgesic or supportive therapy requirements  4.3 Administer veterinarian prescribed analgesic to manage patient pain, within legal scope of practice  Wording changes to PE including to remove repetition of PC. Remove ‘calculation of dosages’ and ‘assessing’ animal’s analgesic requirements.  Reference to specific number of hours associated with performance evidence has been removed, however evidence of performance is still required to be demonstrated in a workplace with real animals, and under veterinary supervision.  Minor changes to wording and sequencing of KE for clarity and flow.  Change to Assessment Conditions – remove reference to ‘interactions with [ ] or minimum of Certificate IV qualified veterinary nurse’ as CIV VN cannot themselves induce anaesthesia or analgesia without veterinarian supervision. | Not equivalent |
| ACMVET414 Nurse foals | | ACMVET4X17 Nurse foals | Changes to Application wording. Removed ‘in a veterinary practice’ as caring for foals may take in a variety of contexts under the supervision of a veterinarian.  Legislative, licensing and regulatory language has been clarified – legislation does not specifically apply to veterinary nurses, it applies to veterinarians and consequently to the scope of work that is permitted to be undertaken by a veterinary nurse and required levels of supervision.  Element 2 re-sequenced to Element 6 as is post the neo-natal period of foal care, impacting all other elements.  PC3.1 (previously 4.1 and 4.2) combined and reworded for clarity (i.e. is not carrying out foal care according to WHS procedures, rather following WHS procedures when carrying out foal care)  PC5.1 change ‘symptoms’ to ‘signs’  KE reordered to align with E/PC and remove duplication (types of assistance including respiratory and nutritional support; nursing techniques for respiratory support and feeding – combined to ‘assistance and techniques’ | Equivalent |
| ACMVET415 Provide intensive foal care and nursing | | ACMVET4X18 Provide intensive foal care and nursing | Unit re-templated to 2025 template  Changes to wording of Application  Legislative and regulatory statement revised to more accurately reflect requirements.  Remove Nurse foals (and subsequent pre-requisite chain) from pre-requisite requirements. Include ACMQUE212 Handle horses safely as pre-requisite to ensure safety working in an equine environment (esp mares).  E1: change from ‘ Admit new arrivals to a neonatal intensive care unit (NICU)’ to ‘ Admit foals to the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU)’  PC1.1 minor change ‘Prepare the NICU and admit foals’  PC1.2 reword from ‘Place foals correctly’ to ‘Place foals for required care using correct handling and moving techniques’ to reflect correct positioning (for the required care) and correct handling to place the foal.  Delete PC2.2 as ‘apply aseptic techniques’ in PC7.1 for whole unit generally  (new) PC2.2 reworded from ‘carry out regular monitoring’ to ‘perform regular monitoring of patient’s health parameters’  PC3.4 ‘Assist with initial resuscitation according to industry practice’ reworded to ‘Assist with emergency resuscitation’  Minor change E4 from ‘Assemble crash kit items’ to ‘Assemble crash kit equipment and materials’  E6 add ‘and administer’  PC6.2 add ‘according to veterinarian instructions and within scope of practice’  PC7.1 change ‘Maintain aseptic techniques and strict hygiene protocol’ to ‘Apply aseptic techniques and maintain strict hygiene protocols’  Wording of PE changed to simply and remove duplication and repetition of PC  KE: minor movements and rewording for clarity  Added ‘resuscitation techniques and equipment’  Added ‘aseptic techniques’  Added ‘isolation of critically ill or infected animals’ in knowledge of biosecurity procedures.  Mandatory workplace requirements noted as applicable to this unit due to skills needing to be demonstrated in a NICU (or an environment that accurately reflects an equine veterinary practice NICU) with real animals and all necessary equipment. | Not equivalent |
| ACMVET416 Assist with the preparation of veterinary drugs and poisons | | ACMVET4X15 Prepare, handle and administer veterinary medicines and restricted substances | Title changed  Wording of Application changed for better reflection of the unit and its application  Licensing, legislative, regulatory requirements strengthened throughout unit  E1 and PCs 1.1 – 1.4 re-worded for clarification. PCs 2.1 – 2.3 moved to E1.  E2 and PCs 2.4 – 2.8 re-worded.  Additional E3 added – re ‘administration’ of medication.  E4 (previously E3) re-worded from ‘support veterinary drugs and poisons’ to ‘provide information to clients or animal carers about veterinary drugs and poisons’.  PC3.1 deleted  Now PC4.1 – 4.4 wording changes to provide more information than just ‘explain’ as legislation requires provision of written information.  PE reworded for clarity and reduction of duplication of PC, and inclusion of ‘administration’ as well as preparation.  Removal of requirement for mandatory workplace demonstration of skills within nominated hours.  Knowledge evidence streamlined to remove reference to specific legislation which is, and will, become outdated. | Not equivalent |
| ACMVET501 Manage nursing requirements for specialised surgical procedures | | ACMVET5X21 Manage nursing requirements for specialised surgical procedures | Unit re-templated to 2025 template  Changes to wording of Application to provide more definition regarding specialised surgical procedures and remove requirement for supervision by MANZCVS.  E1: Change wording from ‘Conduct admission processes for specialised surgical procedures under supervision of a veterinary surgeon’ to ‘Conduct admission processes’.  PC1.2 minor grammatical change from ‘patient histories’ plural to ‘patient history’ (singular) to align with rest of unit  PC1.3 add ‘and process’ re samples  PC2.1 wording change from ‘Coordinate theatre preparation to achieve aseptic conditions before and during surgery’ to ‘Coordinate theatre preparation to ensure aseptic conditions are achieved before, and maintained during surgery’  PC2.4 Reworded from ‘Supervise gloving and gowning of others’ to ‘2.4 Supervise and assist with scrubbing, gowning, gloving and masking of others’ (incorporate 5.1 ‘surgeon’s personal preparations’).  Added PC 2.5 relating to ensuring WHS and infection prevention and control procedures followed  (PC2.2 ‘prepare and check [ ] equipment and materials ready for surgery’ according to WHS and practice policies and procedures incorrect)  Remove PC 3.1 as is knowledge evidence  3.1 (new) add ‘record’  Element 4 Monitor anaesthesia under the direction and supervision of the surgeon deleted, and PC 4.1 added - ‘Monitor anaesthesia and adjust, apply ventilation support or administer intra-operative medications as directed by the surgeon’ (to reduce duplication with other anaesthesia units, and little to no knowledge of monitoring anaesthesia in this unit)  E5 (previously element 6) changed from ‘Provide post-operative support to patient under supervision of veterinary surgeon’ to ‘Provide post-operative support to patient’  PC6.1 minor change to wording from ‘Monitor and support anaesthetic recovery of patients’ to ‘Monitor and support patient recovery from anaesthesia’  E6 change from ‘Manage equipment cleaning and maintenance’ to ‘Manage theatre cleanup’  PC 6.1 added ‘disinfecting and sterilisation’ not just cleaning and maintenance  Additional PC added re disposal of waste and materials  Wording PC 6.3 changed from ‘Coordinate the packing and storage of instruments and surgical equipment’ to ‘Coordinate the packing and storage of drapery, instruments and surgical equipment according to IPC procedures’  PE: Re-worded for clarity and to reduce duplicating E and PC.  Remove requirement for specified number of mandatory work hours, whilst retaining requirement to demonstrate performance in a workplace with real animals/procedures.  KE: changes to wording of some knowledge requirements – added knowledge of aseptic techniques (as critical to surgical work). | Equivalent |
| ACMVET502 Carry out post-operative nursing routines | | ACMVET5X22 Carry out post-operative nursing routines | Changes to wording of Application to provide more definition regarding specialised surgical procedures and remove requirement for supervision by MANZCVS.  E1 delete ‘under supervision of veterinary surgeon’ (same re E4) as unit application clearly specifies work is under veterinary supervision.  Delete PC1.2 – knowledge evidence  Grammatical change to (new) PC1.2  Split PC1.4 to (new) PCs1.1 and 1.3  Wording of (new) PC1.6 changed to broaden ‘cleaning’ to include disinfecting, sterilising and disposing of nursing materials  PE: minor wording changes  Increase maintaining and monitoring fluid therapy plan and IV catheter site from one to at least two patients  Remove specified number of workplace hours, whilst retaining requirement for performance to be demonstrated in a workplace.  KE: minor wording changes and resequencing of required knowledge  Change ‘calculation of energy requirements using the correct formula’ to ‘formulas for calculation of energy requirements and conversion into volume of food product’ as no single ‘correct formula’  ‘workplace hygiene standards, disinfectants and sterilisation, cleaning agents, cleaning techniques and cleaning equipment and materials related to post-operative routines’ reworded to ‘workplace hygiene standards, cleaning, disinfecting and sterilising agents, safe and hygienic cleaning techniques and cleaning equipment and materials’ | Equivalent |
| ACMVET503 Produce veterinary dental oral cavity images | | ACMVET4X13 Apply veterinary diagnostic imaging routines | Title change.  Unit merged with ACMVET402 Apply imaging routines.  This unit has been updated throughout to reflect inclusion of dental x-ray, removal of endoscopes and greater emphasis on radiation safety.  Legislative, licensing and regulatory language has been clarified and strengthened.  Removed requirement to perform Performance Evidence in a real workplace on real animals, enabling application of skills to be simulated using animal models. | Not equivalent |
| ACMVET504 Provide veterinary dental nursing support for advanced veterinary dental surgery | | ACMVET5X23 Provide nursing support for advanced veterinary dental surgery | 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. | Equivalent |
| ACMVET505 Prepare for veterinary emergency response | | ACMVET5X26 Coordinate veterinary practice emergency preparedness | Changes to wording of Application  Remove legislative and regulatory statement – focus of unit is on coordinating equipment and resources for emergencies, not actually performing nursing activities or using equipment or resources.  E1 change wording from ‘Prepare for emergency response’ to ‘Prepare for and maintain practice readiness to respond to a veterinary emergency’  PC re-ordered  PC1.1 split to (new) PC1.4 re ‘testing equipment viability and personnel performance’ in the context of a practice drill  1.2 add ‘and procedures’  (new) 1.4 changed from ‘provide’ to ‘coordinate’  Deleted PC1.5  PC2.1 merged with PC2.3  (new) PC2.1 reworded to align with element and unit outcome  New PC2.2 including rewording of ‘record a performance appraisal’ split from 2.1  PE: change PE to ‘developed, or reviewed and improved, at least one [ ] procedure’ from ‘developed one [ ] protocol’  Removed requirement for performance to be demonstrated in a veterinary practice in a specified number of hours, to enable unit to be demonstrated through simulation.  Minor wording changes to KE for clarification  Added KE of basic training methods as PC require training personnel in processes. | Equivalent |
| ACMVET506 Perform emergency procedures to sustain life | | ACMVET5X27 Perform emergency procedures to sustain life | Unit re-templated to 2025 template  Changes to wording of Application  Legislative and regulatory statement revised to more accurately reflect requirements.  E1 and E2 merged to (new) E1 ‘Assess need for emergency response’  PCs 1.1- 1.3 merged to (new) PC1.1  PCs 2.1 and 2.2 merged to (new) PC1.2  Wording of PC4.4 changed in (now) PC3.4 from ‘Provide specific emergency and critical care nursing assistance ensuring hygiene and infection control protocols are followed’ to ‘Provide specific emergency and critical care nursing assistance as directed by veterinarian, ensuring hygiene and infection prevention and control procedures are followed’  PE: wording changed from ‘handled a minimum of five’ to ‘managed, within legal scope of practice and with veterinary supervision, a minimum of five’  PE sub-bullet point 1 streamlined  Sub-bullet point 3 change from ‘worked as a member of a team’ to ‘worked with at least one other person’  Bullet point ‘intubated a minimum of one patient’ changed to ‘intubated a minimum of two real or model animals’  Removed reference to specified number of hours of work, whilst retaining requirement for performance, unless specified to be demonstrated in the workplace on real animals.  KE: re-sequenced  ‘safety risks’ reworded to ‘safety hazards associated with emergency procedures, including on sick, injured, anxious and frightened animals’ and list of mix of hazards and risks removed. | Equivalent |
| ACMVET508 Support veterinary practice communication and professional development | | ACMVET5X19 Enhance professional practice in veterinary nursing | PCs and elements replaced by knowledge, skills and application as per ASK template.  Title change from ‘communication and professional development’ to ‘enhance professional practice’ to reflect broader professional practice focus with less administrative and more clinical orientation.  Application wording changed to reflect the actual application of the unit from ‘managing practice communication and staff development’ to using communication for more advanced clinical interaction.  Content has been reframed from supporting communication and professional development in general practice to enhancing professional practice in veterinary nursing across a broad range of clinical contexts,  Remove admission and discharge in E1 and 3 as covered in ACMVET4X08 Conduct animal care discussions with clients.  Licensing, legislative and regulatory requirement statement removed, as unit is not specific to undertaking actual nursing work.  Skills and knowledge strengthened to align with advanced clinical nursing, rather than administrative processes.  Removed mandatory work placement requirement and specified number of hours. | Not equivalent |
| ACMVET508 Support veterinary practice communication and professional development | | ACMVET4X8 Conduct animal care discussions with clients | This unit has been merged with; ACMVET201 Assist with veterinary nursing reception duties, ACMVET401 Coordinate veterinary reception duties, ACMVET406 Nurse animals, ACMVET408 Provide nutritional advice and support for animals and ACMVET409 Provide specific animal care advice.  Element 1 Facilitate admission and discharge [sic] referral patients and E3 communicate with clients about veterinary procedures included in this unit | Not equivalent |
| ACMVET509 Manage veterinary nursing procedures | | ACMVET5X24 Manage veterinary nursing procedures | Unit re-templated to 2025 template  Changes to wording of Application  Legislative and regulatory statement revised to more accurately reflect requirements.  E1: wording change from ‘Supervise’ to ‘Co-ordinate’  PCs re-sequenced, split and merged. PC1.4 removed as is a single, specific procedure which would be covered in PC1.2 and 1.4.  PC2.1: minor wording change ‘other health care professional and service regarding reason’ to ‘other health care provider of reason for referral’  PC2.2: from ‘transfer of copies of client records and referral information while maintaining client confidentiality’ to ‘transfer of copies of client and patient records and referral information while maintaining confidentiality of client personal information’  PC2.5 reworded from ‘Document referral veterinarian patient case report outcomes and required after care in case notes using industry standard terminology’ to ‘Record referral outcomes and after-care requirements in patient case notes’  PC3.2 split to 3.2 and 3.3  PC3.3 removed  PC3.5 added (moved from element 4)  Element 4 redesigned from ‘monitor maintenance of accurate records) to ‘Review nursing policies and procedures to improve patient outcomes or client services’ (re PC4.1 and PC3.3 about ‘developing and implementing’ policies and procedures.  New PCs 4.1 – 4.5 aligned to E4  PE: format and wording of PE changed  Added ‘managed referral of at least three patients’ and ‘reviewed at least two nursing policies and procedures’ per the unit requirements (replaced ‘developed and implemented a minimum of one infection control procedure’ to enable flexibility where practices already have IPC procedures)  Remove reference to specific number of hours for demonstration of performance, whilst retaining requirement for performance to be in a workplace.  KE: minor changes to sequence, format and clarity of wording | Not equivalent |
| ACMVET510 Apply veterinary nursing pathophysiology | | ACMVET5X20 Apply veterinary nursing pathophysiology | Unit redesigned from an Elements & Performance Criteria structure to an Application of Knowledge & Skills (ASK) format, to enable greater theoretical depth and clearer articulation of knowledge standards rather than procedural tasks.  Greater emphasis on pathophysiology, including mechanisms of disease, disease progression and system-level effects not explicitly detailed in the original unit.  Diagnostic testing content updated and broadened, with explicit inclusion of ultrasound-guided cystocentesis as a required practical skill. Performance Evidence revised for increased focus on integration of clinical reasoning, recognition of abnormal body function and consistent application of volume and frequency of performance.  Knowledge Evidence expanded to include pathophysiological mechanisms, species-relevant disease signs, diagnostic purposes and procedures, and disease management.  Specified number of mandatory work placement hours removed, although performance still needs to be demonstrated in an appropriate veterinary practice or work environment. | Not equivalent |
| ACMVET510 Apply veterinary nursing pathophysiology | | ACMVET4X07 Triaging and responding to animal emergencies | Unit merged with ACMVET401 Coordinate veterinary reception duties and ACMVET406 Nurse animals.  PC1.4 re assisting in triage, PE of ‘conducting effective triage of patients’ at least once and KE of principles of triage is now included in this unit. | Not equivalent |
| ACMVET511 Apply principles of animal behaviour | | ACMVET5X25 Apply principles of animal behaviour | Unit re-templated to 2025 template  Changes to wording of Application  Legislative and regulatory statement revised to more accurately reflect requirements.  Wording changes to Elements and Performance Criteria throughout the unit, with little material change.  Remove reference to specific number of hours for demonstration of performance, whilst retaining requirement for performance to be in a workplace with real animals and real clients. | Equivalent |
| ACMVET512 Develop and implement specific practice policies | | Not applicable | Unit proposed for deletion | Not applicable |
| Not applicable | | ACMVET4X06 Develop knowledge of the veterinary industry and apply to veterinary nursing practice | The Skills Review of veterinary nursing identified a gap in the training provided specifically about careers pathways, the veterinary industry as a whole and roles/responsibilities and requirements of veterinary nursing (compared to general animal care). | Newly created |
| Not applicable | | ACMVET5X29 Apply advanced knowledge of anaesthesia in veterinary nursing practice | This unit has been created to address a skill or task required by industry that is not covered by an existing unit.  Industry and training provider stakeholders have identified a need for veterinary nurses to acquire a deeper level of knowledge and more advanced skills in anaesthesia to support contemporary veterinary practice. Recent legislative changes in one jurisdiction have expanded the permissible scope of practice for veterinary nurses to include the administration of general and local anaesthetic agents and peripheral nerve blocks. This expanded scope requires training to ensure veterinary nurses are appropriately equipped with the specialised knowledge, technical skills and clinical judgement necessary to undertake these responsibilities safely and competently | Newly created |
| Not applicable | | ACMVET5X30 Perform medical and minor surgical veterinary procedures | This unit has been created to address a skill or task required by industry that is not covered by an existing unit  Industry and training provider stakeholders have identified a need for veterinary nurses to acquire a deeper level of knowledge and more advanced skills in medical procedures and performing minor surgical procedures to support contemporary veterinary practice.  Recent legislative changes in one jurisdiction have expanded the scope of practice for veterinary nurses to include the performance of more advanced medical and surgical procedures, under veterinary supervision. This expanded scope requires training to ensure veterinary nurses are appropriately equipped with the specialised knowledge, technical skills and clinical judgement necessary to undertake these responsibilities safely and competently. | Newly created |
| Not applicable | | ACMVET5X31 Conduct veterinary nurse clinics | The veterinary nursing industry identifies that the veterinary shortage has significantly increased the demand for veterinary nurses to perform more advanced skills and operate with greater autonomy in the provision of services to both animals and clients, requiring enhanced knowledge to conduct nursing clinics with clients about a broad and complex range of animal health and behaviour issues. | Newly created |

1. The Australian Apprenticeships website has information about traineeships and apprenticeships. Visit <www.australianapprenticeships.gov. au> for more information. STA contact details are provided in the Links section of this Implementation Guide. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. RTOs regulated by Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) must comply with the 2025 Standards for RTOs. RTOs regulated by the Western Australian Training Accreditation Council (WA TAC) or the Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority (VRQA) must check with their regulator for current requirements. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)