Title | Describe zoonoses, notifiable exotic zoonoses, and their control, in New Zealand
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Level | 3
Credits | 5

**Purpose**

People credited with this unit standard are able to describe: diseases causing significant zoonotic hazard in New Zealand; strategies and control measures to prevent the spread of zoonoses in an animal facility; and emergency measures to prevent the immediate spread of notifiable exotic zoonoses in New Zealand.

**Classification**

Animal Care and Handling > Animal Care

**Available grade**

Achieved

**Guidance Information**

1 Legislation, standards, and codes relevant to this unit standard include but are not limited to:

- Animal Welfare Act 1999;
- Biosecurity Act 1993;
- Food Act 2014;
- Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996;
- Health Act 1956;
- Health and Safety at Work Act 2015;
- Resource Management Act 1991;
- Relevant New Zealand Veterinary Association (NZVA) standards, available at [https://www.nzva.org.nz](https://www.nzva.org.nz);
- Relevant National Animal Ethics Advisory Committee (NAEAC) guidelines at [www.mpi.govt.nz](http://www.mpi.govt.nz) under Animal Welfare; and any subsequent amendments.

2 Definitions

*Animal facility* refers to a facility such as an animal boarding facility, a veterinary clinic, pet shop, or an animal welfare facility.

*Notifiable zoonoses* refer to zoonotic diseases that are notifiable to the Medical Officer of Health under the Health Act 1956.

*Workplace procedures* refer to the documented procedures for animal care, handling, and ethical behaviour codes required by the employer of the animal facility and must be consistent with equipment manufacturer’s recommendations and NAWAC codes.

*Zoonoses*—diseases transmitted between humans and animals.
3 For the purposes of assessment
   • evidence must be presented in accordance with workplace procedures.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Describe diseases causing significant zoonotic hazard in New Zealand.

Range diseases may include but are not limited to – leptospirosis, toxoplasmosis, visceral larval migrants, ringworm, tuberculosis, giardia, campylobacter, ectoparasitic disease, ornithosis; evidence of at least four is required.

Performance criteria

1.1 Describe the cause, transmission, and control of zoonotic diseases.

1.2 Describe the signs and symptoms of the diseases in animals and humans.

Outcome 2

Describe strategies and control measures to prevent the spread of zoonoses in an animal facility.

Performance criteria

2.1 Describe strategies for preventing the transmission of zoonoses in the animal facility.

Range strategies may include but are not limited to – written practice policy, protective clothing, animal management procedures, disinfection procedures, isolation, personal protective equipment; evidence of at least three is required.

2.2 Describe control measures to prevent the spread of zoonoses through animal populations.

Range control measures include but are not limited to – vaccinations, barrier isolation methods, movement control, quarantine, testing programmes, use of medications and drenches, feeding restrictions, disposal of contaminated material.

Outcome 3

Describe emergency measures to prevent the immediate spread of notifiable exotic zoonoses in New Zealand.
Performance criteria

3.1 Describe the signs of notifiable exotic zoonoses in animals and humans.

Range notifiable zoonoses may include but are not limited to – rabies, anthrax, bovine spongiform encephalopathy; evidence of at least two is required.

3.2 Describe the emergency measures to prevent the immediate spread of notifiable exotic zoonoses.

Range measures include but are not limited to – notification of appropriate authority, isolation procedures, movement control.

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Planned review date 31 December 2026

Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

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Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference 0228

This CMR can be accessed at http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do.

Comments on this unit standard

Please contact the Primary ITO standards@primaryito.ac.nz if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.