

Title	Describe emergency care of injured animal patients		
Level	3	Credits	5

Purpose	People credited with this unit standard are able to describe: the risks associated with the emergency situation, requirements for restraint of the animal patient, and restraint tools; immediate first aid supportive therapy used in an emergency situation until veterinary assistance arrives or is available; first aid management of non-accident emergency conditions; and methods of transport and immediate care of an injured animal patient, and observations required.
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Classification	Animal Care and Handling > Animal Care
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Available grade	Achieved
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Guidance Information

- 1 Legislation, standards, and codes relevant to this unit standard include but are not limited to:
 - Animal Welfare Act 1999;
 - Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996;
 - Health and Safety at Work Act 2015;
 - Resource Management Act 1991;
 - New Zealand Standard NZS 4304:2002 *Management of Healthcare Waste*, available at <https://www.standards.govt.nz/shop/nzs-43042002/>;
 - Relevant New Zealand Veterinary Association (NZVA) standards, available at <https://www.nzva.org.nz/>;
 - Relevant National Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (NAWAC) Codes of Welfare, available at www.mpi.govt.nz, under Animal Welfare;
 - Guide to the Animal Welfare (Care and Procedures) Regulations, available at <http://www.mpi.govt.nz/protection-and-response/animal-welfare/>;
 - Relevant National Animal Ethics Advisory Committee (NAEAC) guidelines at www.mpi.govt.nz under Animal Welfare; and any subsequent amendments.

- 2 Definition

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

- 3 For the purposes of assessment
 - evidence for the practical components of this unit standard must be supplied from a workplace or organisation.
 - evidence must be presented in accordance with workplace procedures.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Describe the risks associated with the emergency situation, requirements for restraint of the animal patient, and restraint tools.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 Describe the risks at the scene and action required to mitigate risks in the emergency situation.
- Range risks may include but not limited to – traffic, electricity, toxins, people, natural hazards, animal aggression; evidence of at least three is required.
- 1.2 Describe how the demeanour of the animal patient will determine if restraint is required.
- 1.3 Describe the use of restraint tools to avoid compromising injury.
- Range may include but is not limited to – muzzle, net, blanket or towel, dog catcher, handling gloves for personnel, cage trap; evidence of at least three is required.

Outcome 2

Describe immediate first aid supportive therapy used in an emergency situation until veterinary assistance arrives or is available.

Performance criteria

- 2.1 Describe situations where first aid measures are used to control haemorrhage, and the procedures for their use.
- Range direct digital pressure, pressure bandages, pressure points, tourniquets.
- 2.2 Describe the risks associated with measures implemented for haemorrhage control.
- Range direct digital pressure, pressure bandages, pressure points, tourniquets.
- 2.3 Describe short term measures to manage wounds without exacerbating the injury.
- Range open wounds, closed wounds, penetrating chest wounds, presence of foreign bodies.
- 2.4 Describe the signs of fractures or dislocation.

- 2.5 Describe possible first aid treatment for fractures and dislocations.
- 2.6 Describe methods to stabilise the animal patient using supportive therapy.

Range must include but is not limited to – burns – direct heat, electrical, chemical; eye injuries.

Outcome 3

Describe first aid management of non-accident emergency conditions.

Performance criteria

- 3.1 Describe first aid management of non-accident emergency conditions

Range may include but is not limited to – poisoning, hyperthermia, hypothermia, gastric dilatation volvulus, seizures and convulsions, insect stings and bites; evidence of at least three is required.

Outcome 4

Describe methods of transport and immediate care of an injured animal patient, and observations required.

Performance criteria

- 4.1 Describe methods of transporting injured animal patients with minimal discomfort, and without injury to self or exacerbating the injury.

Range ambulatory, non-ambulatory.

- 4.2 Describe methods and procedures for monitoring the animal patient for any signs of deterioration.

- 4.3 Describe methods for managing the animal patient to avoid further deterioration.

- 4.4 Describe the history of the animal patient and details of injuries, from an observation.

Range includes but is not limited to – likely cause of injury, results of assessment, first aid measures implemented, changes in condition since initial assessment.

Planned review date	31 December 2026
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Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	1 November 2018	31 December 2022
Review	2	26 August 2021	N/A

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.