

Title	Carry out companion animal examination, and record and report variations to normal health and behaviour		
Level	3	Credits	4

Purpose	People credited with this unit standard are able to: carry out an examination of a companion animal, and record and report variations to normal health and behaviour; and describe normal body temperature, pulse rate, and respiration, and significance of variations to normal for the companion animal.
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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;
 - Relevant National Animal Ethics Advisory Committee (NAEAC) guidelines at www.mpi.govt.nz under Animal Welfare; and any subsequent amendments.
- 2 Range – cat, dog, rabbit or rodent.
- 3 Definitions

Companion animals refer to cat, dog, rabbit or rodent.

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.
- 4 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

Carry out an examination of companion animal, and record and report variations to normal health and behaviour.

Performance criteria

1.1 Observe features of the animal from a distance.

Range features include but are not limited to – breed, approximate age, state of body coat, body condition, posture, general demeanour, gait, obvious injury; evidence of at least five is required.

1.2 Carry out a routine for hands-on and visual examination of the entire body to determine the presence of any abnormality.

Range nose, eyes, ears, teeth, coat and skin, posture, nails or claws, feet, limbs, genitals, presence of wounds, abnormal swellings or lumps, mucous membrane colour; may include – sex.

1.3 Record and report normal or any variations to normal health and behaviour.

Outcome 2

Describe normal body temperature, pulse rate, and respiration, and significance of variations to normal for the companion animal.

Performance criteria

2.1 Describe normal body temperature, pulse rate, and respiration for an animal.

2.2 Describe the significance of variations to normal for the animal.

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
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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.