

Conduct preliminary clinical examination of an animal

Level 4

Credits 3

Purpose People credited with this unit standard are able to: carry out a distant examination and complete an interim case history of the patient; and conduct a superficial examination of the patient.

Subfield Animal Care and Handling

Domain Veterinary Nursing

Status Registered

Status date 8 August 1996

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Entry information Open.

Accreditation Evaluation of documentation and visit by NZQA, industry and teaching professional in the same field from another provider.

Standard setting body (SSB) Primary Industry Training Organisation

Accreditation and Moderation Action Plan (AMAP) reference 0228

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

Special notes

- 1 For credit, evidence must be in accordance with the statutory and industry requirements contained in the following documents.
Relevant and current National Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (NAWAC) Codes of Welfare and Codes of Recommendations and Minimum Standards, available at <http://www.maf.govt.nz>, under animal welfare.
Relevant New Zealand Veterinary Association (NZVA) standards, available from NZVA, PO Box 11-212, Manners Street, Wellington (<http://www.vets.org.nz>) (referred to in this unit standard as *standard procedures*).
Animal Welfare Act 1999, Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992, and any subsequent amendments.

2 Underpinning Knowledge

The following areas of knowledge underpin performance of the elements in this unit standard:

Element 1

Normal respiration and pulse rates according to species

Position for taking respiration and pulse

Common signs of ill health, injury, sickness, distress according to species

Element 2

Normal temperature range according to species

Sites for taking temperature according to species

Use and care of thermometer.

Elements and performance criteria

Element 1

Carry out a distant examination and complete an interim case history of the patient.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 Features, condition, and disposition of the animal are observed from a distance according to standard procedures, and recorded to in-house standards.
- Range breed, approximate age, sex, state of body coat, body condition, posture, general demeanour, gait, obvious injury.
- 1.2 Respiration is recorded according to standard procedures, and variations from normal are identified, recorded and reported to the veterinarian to in-house standards.
- 1.3 Variations in respiration are explained in terms of significance to individual animal.
- 1.4 Case history is completed according to standard procedures.

Element 2

Conduct a superficial examination of the patient.

Performance criteria

- 2.1 Pulse rate is recorded according to standard procedures, and reported to the veterinarian to in-house standards.
- 2.2 A routine is established and followed for hands-on examination of the entire body to determine presence of abnormality.
- Range nose, eyes, ears, teeth, coat and skin, glands, posture, nail/claws, feet, limbs, orifice, genitals, presence of wounds, abnormal swellings or lumps, capillary refill time, mucous membrane colour.

- 2.3 Results of the examination are recorded, and reported to the veterinarian to in-house standards.
- 2.4 Rectal temperature is taken during the examination according to standard procedures, and recorded to in-house standards.
- 2.5 Normal body temperature and pulse rate are explained in terms of significance of variations.

Please note

Providers must be accredited by NZQA, or an inter-institutional body with delegated authority for quality assurance, before they can report credits from assessment against unit standards or deliver courses of study leading to that assessment.

Industry Training Organisations must be accredited by NZQA before they can register credits from assessment against unit standards.

Accredited providers and Industry Training Organisations assessing against unit standards must engage with the moderation system that applies to those standards.

Accreditation requirements and an outline of the moderation system that applies to this standard are outlined in the Accreditation and Moderation Action Plan (AMAP). The AMAP also includes useful information about special requirements for organisations wishing to develop education and training programmes, such as minimum qualifications for tutors and assessors, and special resource requirements.

Comments on this unit standard

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