

<b>Title</b>	<b>Provide emergency first aid care to companion animals</b>		
<b>Level</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>8</b>

<b>Purpose</b>	People credited with this unit standard are able to assess the emergency situation, and provide immediate first aid supportive therapy to companion animals until qualified help arrives and/or help is available.
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<b>Classification</b>	Animal Care and Handling > Veterinary Nursing
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<b>Available grade</b>	Achieved
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<b>Prerequisites</b>	Unit 5183, <i>Handle and transport injured companion animals</i> , or demonstrate equivalent knowledge and skills.
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### Guidance Information

- 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:
  - Normal health and appearance according to species
  - Comfort requirements of injured animal
  - Methods of handling to avoid deterioration of patient
  - Bandaging techniques
  - Signs of shock and causes
  - Types of wounds and their treatments
  - Common poisons, their signs and treatment
  - Methods of performing CPR.

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## Outcomes and performance criteria

### Outcome 1

Assess the emergency situation.

#### Performance criteria

- 1.1 Situation is assessed to determine further action required.
- Range life threatening emergency; emergency requiring prompt action; situation requiring telephone advice; situation likely to cause injury or problems to people, property, other animals, or traffic.
- 1.2 Animal is restrained and observed to determine extent of injury or illness according to standard procedures, and details are recorded according to in-house procedures.
- Range time, place, demeanour, behaviour mobility, breathing, airway, haemorrhage, swelling, pain, shock, inflammation, degree of apparent external injury, sites affected.
- 1.3 Animal is provided with immediate life support to stabilise condition.
- Range airways, breathing, circulation.
- 1.4 Veterinarian is provided with history of patient and details of injury according to observations.

### Outcome 2

Provide immediate first aid supportive therapy until qualified help arrives and/or help is available.

#### Performance criteria

- 2.1 First aid measures to control haemorrhage using available material are implemented until qualified advice and help can be sought and/or is available.
- Range direct digital pressure, pressure bandages, pressure points, tourniquets.
- 2.2 Risks associated with measures implemented for haemorrhage control are understood and managed until help and/or advice is available.
- 2.3 Short term measures to manage wounds without exacerbating the injury are carried out until qualified advice is obtained.
- Range open wounds, closed wounds, contaminated wounds, penetrating wounds, presence of foreign bodies.

2.4 Signs of fractures or dislocation are recognised and first aid treatment is carried out.

Range confine, comfort, restraint.

2.5 Animal is stabilised using immediate supportive therapy, according to the condition, until qualified advice is sought and carried out.

Range includes but is not limited to – burns, poisoning, shock.

2.6 Animal is managed to avoid further deterioration.

Range general handling, maintenance at optimal temperature, comfort, quiet.

**This unit standard is expiring. Assessment against the standard must take place by the last date for assessment set out below.**

#### Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	8 August 1996	31 December 2022
Revision	2	16 December 1996	31 December 2022
Revision	3	16 November 1998	31 December 2022
Revision	4	7 June 2000	31 December 2022
Revision	5	12 February 2003	31 December 2022
Rollover and Revision	6	25 June 2007	31 December 2022
Review	7	22 October 2020	31 December 2022

#### Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference

0228

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