Nurse geriatric animals

Level 5
Credits 4

Purpose
People credited with this unit standard are able to: recognise expectations and conditions of old age; attend to the daily needs of geriatric animals; and respond to client requests for advice.

Subfield Animal Care and Handling
Domain Veterinary Nursing
Status Registered
Status date 30 June 1996
Date version published 25 June 2007
Planned review date 31 July 2009
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.

2 In-house procedures refer to the documented policies and procedures for animal handling and ethical behaviour codes required by the employer.
Elements and performance criteria

Element 1

Recognise expectations and conditions of old age.

Performance criteria

1.1 Physical changes are identified in terms of the ageing process.
Range skin/coat, skeletal, musculature, special senses, appetite, weight, exercise tolerance.

1.2 Mental changes are identified in terms of the ageing process.
Range response to stimuli, pain response, memory, adaptability to change, temperament, behaviour, concentration.

1.3 Physiological changes of body systems are identified in terms of the ageing process.
Range digestive, reproductive, circulatory, urogenital.

1.4 Health ailments are identified in terms of the ageing process.

1.5 Observations are recorded and reported to the veterinarian according to in-house procedures.

Element 2

Attend to the daily needs of geriatric animals.

Performance criteria

2.1 Animals are cared for on a daily basis in terms of specific routine requirements of the geriatric.
Range nutrition, diet, water, health, exercise, grooming, medication, bedding, support, opportunity to eliminate bodily waste, rest, mental health.

2.2 Areas requiring special, regular attention are cared for, to maintain animal in comfortable state, according to in-house procedures.
Range skin, coat, neoplastic changes, nails, foot pads, orifices, teeth, pressure points, eyes, ears, joints.
Element 3

Respond to client requests for advice.

Performance criteria

3.1 General enquiries from clients are assessed to determine most suitable person to deal with enquiry.

3.2 Advice within parameters specified by the practice and within the capability of self is provided in a manner which is tactful and at a level of understanding appropriate for the client.

Range degenerative process, nutrition, exercise, grooming, mental stimulation, health, administration of prescribed medications, preventative health care, euthanasia, grief counselling.

3.3 Need for referral to a specialist is assessed in accordance with veterinary practice procedures.

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.