

<b>Title</b>	<b>Nurse an intensive care animal patient</b>		
<b>Level</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>6</b>

<b>Purpose</b>	People credited with this unit standard are able to: provide daily nursing care for the patient; attend to specific requirements according to the condition; and respond to client requests for advice.
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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 5199, <i>Set up an intravenous drip, manage an animal while on fluid therapy</i> , or demonstrate equivalent knowledge and skills.
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### Guidance Information

- 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>) including the current version of *Standard Procedures for Veterinary Nursing and Animal Care*.  
Animal Welfare Act 1999, Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992, and any subsequent amendments.
- In-house procedures* refer to the documented policies and procedures for animal handling and ethical behaviour codes required by the employer.
- Underpinning Knowledge**  
The following areas of knowledge underpin performance of the elements in this unit standard:  
Types of medication used, effects, and possible side effects  
Basic caloric requirements, importance of dietary intake  
Quantity and frequency of feeding  
Management of pressure sores  
Side effects of medication and contra-indications  
When intervention is vital.

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## Outcomes and performance criteria

### Outcome 1

Provide daily nursing care for the patient.

#### Performance criteria

- 1.1 Patient is provided with an appropriate diet and fed, according to the individual and the condition, as directed by the veterinarian.
- 1.2 Bedding or support to assist recovery is provided and maintained in a hygienic state.
- 1.3 Patient is handled, turned, and positioned in a manner which enhances recovery and avoids stress, injury to animal or people, or exacerbation of the condition.
- 1.4 Patient is monitored, records are maintained, and observations are recorded and reported to the veterinarian according to practice protocol.
- 1.5 General care is provided, according to the condition, to maintain the animal in a comfortable state.

Range grooming, bathing, cleaning of kennel or ward, environmental temperature, physiotherapy, psychological support, environmental enrichment, massage.

### Outcome 2

Attend to specific requirements according to the condition.

#### Performance criteria

- 2.1 Medication is administered as directed by the veterinarian.
- 2.2 Measures are implemented to prevent interference by animal of dressings, bandages, and equipment without compromising the success of treatment.
- 2.3 Invasive equipment is set up and maintained according to the condition and as directed by the veterinarian.

Range intravenous cannula, urinary catheter, foley catheter, chest drain, oxygen therapy tent, nasogastric tube, fluid therapy, tracheotomy tube, gastrotomy tube, peritoneal drain, pharyngostomy tube.

- 2.4 Emergencies are recognised and action taken according to the circumstances.

Range report to the veterinarian, resuscitate.

**Outcome 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 updates on patient's progress, counselling, grieving client.
- 3.3 Need for referral to a specialist is assessed in accordance with in-house procedures.

**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	30 June 1996	31 December 2022
Revision	2	16 November 1998	31 December 2022
Revision	3	7 June 2000	31 December 2022
Rollover and Revision	4	25 June 2007	31 December 2022
Review	5	22 October 2020	31 December 2022

<b>Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference</b>	0228
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This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.