

Title	Produce an electrocardiogram (ECG) from an animal		
Level	5	Credits	4

Purpose	People credited with this unit standard are able to: prepare equipment and patient; produce an electrocardiogram; and carry out post-procedure duties.
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Classification	Animal Care and Handling > Veterinary Nursing
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Available grade	Achieved
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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>) 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.
- 2 *In-house procedures* refer to the documented policies and procedures for animal handling and ethical behaviour codes required by the employer.
- 3 Underpinning Knowledge
The following areas of knowledge underpin performance of the elements in this unit standard:
 - Outcome 1
Parts of electrocardiograph equipment and their functions
 - Outcome 2
Purpose of recording an electrocardiogram
Methods of improving an electrocardiogram.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Prepare equipment and patient.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 Equipment is assembled and function checked, according to manufacturer's instructions, to ensure it is in ready state for use.
- 1.2 Patient is positioned and restrained to allow connection to leads in a manner which is comfortable for the patient.
- 1.3 Electrocardiograph leads are connected to ensure production of trace is clear and easily interpreted.

Outcome 2

Produce an electrocardiogram.

Performance criteria

- 2.1 Electrocardiogram is taken in a manner which allows interpretation by the veterinarian.
- 2.2 Electrocardiogram is labelled and stored to ensure reading remains clear and identifiable for later interpretation.

Range patient details, date, lead number used, paper speed, medication given.

Outcome 3

Carry out post-procedure duties.

Performance criteria

- 3.1 Patient is disconnected from equipment, avoiding damage to equipment and undue stress to patient.
- 3.2 Equipment is disassembled and cleaned according to manufacturer's instructions.
- 3.3 Client records are completed and maintained according to in-house procedures.
- 3.4 Equipment is stored to ensure safety and avoid deterioration of parts.

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

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference

0228

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