

Title	Perform manual, ultrasonic, and rotodontic dental scaling on small animals		
Level	5	Credits	5

Purpose	People credited with this unit standard are able to: prepare instruments; prepare self and the patient; perform basic dental cleaning and polishing, and ultrasonic and rotodontic cleaning; provide immediate post-surgical care for the patient and respond to client requests for advice; and carry out post-surgical 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
 - Anatomy of mouth and teeth
 - Identification and use of dental instruments (dental elevators, extraction forceps, periodontal probes, ultrasonic scalers, mirrors, motor and hand pieces, polishing cups, cutting disks and burrs, mouth gags)
 - Functioning of specialist machinery
 - Benefits of intubation during procedure

Outcome 5

Selection, use, activity, and features of antiseptics and disinfectants and association with micro-organisms

Factors which affect rate of infection

Sterilisation methods appropriate for types of materials.

Outcomes and performance criteria**Outcome 1**

Prepare instruments.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 Equipment is assembled in accordance with, and in readiness for, specific procedure.
- 1.2 Machinery function is checked according to manufacturer's instructions to ensure efficient and safe operation during dental procedure.
- 1.3 Any faults of equipment are recognised according to manufacturer's specifications, and reported according to in-house procedures.

Outcome 2

Prepare self and the patient.

Performance criteria

- 2.1 Specialist pre-operative medication is prepared and administered as directed by the veterinarian.
- 2.2 Assistance is provided to the veterinarian, as directed, to anaesthetise and intubate patient.
- 2.3 Protective clothing appropriate for procedure is worn to provide physical and inhalation protection from bacterial contamination.

Range gloves, mask, protective eye wear, gown.
- 2.4 Patient is positioned to allow drainage of oral discharges away from pharynx while maintaining patent airway.

Outcome 3

Perform basic dental cleaning and polishing, and ultrasonic and rotodontic cleaning.

Performance criteria

- 3.1 Tartar is removed and teeth polished in a manner which prevents damage to gums and teeth.

Range manual cleaning instruments, ultrasonic and rotodontic cleaning.

3.2 Veterinary assistance is summoned in the event of the need for specialist veterinary intervention.

Range cavities, abscess, gingivitis, loose or broken teeth, local inflammation, retained temporary teeth, oral lesions.

3.3 Records are maintained during procedure according to in house protocol.

Range condition of dentition, condition of gums, extractions.

Outcome 4

Provide immediate post-surgical care for patient, and respond to client requests for advice.

Performance criteria

4.1 Variations to normal recovery from anaesthesia are recognised, recorded, and reported to the veterinarian according to in-house procedures.

4.2 Dental chart and client records are completed according to in-house procedures.

4.3 Advice and demonstration of routines within parameters specified by the practice and within the capability of self is provided in a manner which is tactful and understood by the client.

Range routine dental health, dietary modification, prophylactic dental and oral care.

Outcome 5

Carry out post-surgical duties.

Performance criteria

5.1 Work area is cleaned and disinfected to leave surfaces aseptic.

5.2 Instruments and materials are cleaned and sterilised according to type of material from which items are made.

Range autoclaving, dry heat, cold chemical sterilisation.

5.3 Manual dental equipment is maintained to a state of readiness for use, and stored to avoid damage or deterioration.

5.4 Ultrasonic equipment is disassembled, cleaned, and maintained according to manufacturer's instructions.

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>.