Demonstrate knowledge of zoonoses and their control

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**Purpose**  
People credited with this unit standard are able to: demonstrate knowledge of the lifecycles, signs of disease, and means of control of zoonotic pathogens; demonstrate knowledge of policies and methods to prevent the spread of zoonoses in an animal handling facility; demonstrate knowledge of methods to prevent the spread of notifiable exotic zoonoses in New Zealand; and respond to requests for advice about zoonoses.

**Subfield**  
Animal Care and Handling

**Domain**  
Animal Care

**Status**  
Registered

**Status date**  
24 September 2003

**Date version published**  
25 June 2007

**Planned review date**  
31 July 2009

**Entry information**  
Open.

**Replacement information**  
This unit standard replaced unit standard 16649.

**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


**Special notes**

1. The term *zoonotic* is used to identify those diseases transmitted between humans and animals.

2. For credit, evidence must be in accordance with the statutory and industry requirements contained in the following documents.  
Elements and performance criteria

Element 1

Demonstrate knowledge of the lifecycles, signs of disease, and means of control of zoonotic pathogens.

Performance criteria

1.1 Viral, viral-like, bacterial, and fungal diseases causing significant potential zoonotic hazard in New Zealand are identified and described in terms of cause, transmission, and control.

Range diseases may include but are not limited to – leptospirosis, tuberculosis, salmonellosis, campylobacter disease, ringworm, ornithosis.

1.2 Protozoal and parasitic diseases causing significant potential zoonotic hazard in New Zealand are identified and described in terms of cause, transmission and control.

Range diseases may include but are not limited to – toxoplasmosis, giardiosis, cryptosporidiosis, visceral larval migrans, hydatid disease, ectoparasitic disease.

1.3 Signs of diseases caused by significant zoonotic organisms in animals and humans are identified.

Range signs may include but are not limited to – diarrhoea, vomiting, fever, skin lesions, infertility, neoplasia, birth defects, allergy, respiratory and nervous signs.
Element 2

Demonstrate knowledge of policies and methods to prevent the spread of zoonoses in an animal handling facility.

Performance criteria

2.1 Risk minimising strategies for preventing the transmission of zoonotic disease are described in accordance with legislation and standard procedures.

Range may include but is not limited to – written practice policy, protective clothing, animal management procedures, disinfection procedures, isolation, personal protective equipment.

2.2 Control measures to prevent the spread of zoonotic diseases through animal populations are described in accordance with legislation and standard procedures.

Range may include but is not limited to – vaccinations, barrier isolation methods, movement control, quarantine, testing programmes, use of medications and drenches, feeding restrictions, disposal of contaminated material.

Element 3

Demonstrate knowledge of methods to prevent the spread of notifiable exotic zoonoses in New Zealand.

Range must include but is not limited to – rabies, anthrax, bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE).

Performance criteria

3.1 Signs of exotic zoonoses in animals and humans are described.

3.2 Emergency measures to prevent the immediate spread of exotic zoonoses are described.

Range must include but is not limited to – notification of appropriate authority, isolation procedures, movement control.
Element 4

Respond to requests for advice about zoonoses.

Performance criteria

4.1 General inquiries are assessed to determine the most suitable person to deal with them.

4.2 Advice given on zoonotic diseases is provided clearly, accurately, and is within the capability of self and parameters specified by the establishment or practice.

Range advice may include but is not limited to information on – visceral larval migrants, hydatid disease, ectoparasitic disease, ornithosis, leptospirosis, tuberculosis, ringworm, toxoplasmosis.

4.3 Specialist sources of information about zoonoses are identified and accessed for information and advice.

Range sources may include but are not limited to – other veterinarians outside own practice, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of Health.

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.