

Receive a horse and carry out an initial assessment

Overview

This standard is about receiving a horse and carrying out an initial assessment.

The areas included are new arrivals, rehabilitation, re-homing, retiring and retraining.

You will need to be fully aware of the importance of animal health and welfare and health and safety in connection with this activity.

You will need to be able to recognise hazards and assess risks in the workplace.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. select and wear appropriate clothing and personal protective equipment for the activity
2. receive the horse in a manner that will promote its co-operation and minimise distress
3. handle and restrain the horse in a manner that does not compromise animal welfare, avoids behaviour giving rise to welfare concern and maintains health and safety
4. settle the horse into appropriate accommodation or an assessment area
5. carry out an initial assessment of the horse including identification, physical condition, health, mobility, behaviour and strengths and weaknesses
6. keep accurate and up-to-date records as required by relevant legislation and the organisation you are working for
7. ensure other staff have appropriate details including any particular requirements
8. carry out any follow-up actions required after horse admission
9. ensure appropriate levels of hygiene and bio-security are maintained
10. monitor and promote the health and welfare of the horse throughout
11. monitor and maintain the health and safety of yourself and others, and the welfare of the horse, during the activity

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. the selection, use and care of personal protective equipment
2. how to receive a horse and settle it into appropriate accommodation or an assessment area
3. how to select the appropriate method of handling and restraint for a horse
4. the initial assessment procedures and why they should be carried out
5. the types of follow-up actions that may be required after horse admission
6. the importance of maintaining complete and accurate records as required by relevant legislation and the organisation you are working for
7. the importance of confidentiality of information and data protection
8. the importance of maintaining appropriate levels of hygiene and bio-security and how these can be achieved
9. how to manage communication, both internally and externally
10. the factors that may affect the initial horse assessment
11. the risks to horses, yourself and others and how these are controlled
12. your responsibilities under relevant animal health and welfare and health and safety legislation and codes of practice.

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Scope/range

Receive the following types of horse:

- those appearing to be in generally good condition
- those appearing to be in poor condition
- those with limited mobility

Carry out an initial assessment on the following types of horse:

- those appearing to be in generally good condition
- those appearing to be in poor condition
- those with limited mobility

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