



## National unit specification

### General information

**Unit title:** Companion Animal Anatomical Landmarks (SCQF level 4)

**Unit code:** HH0E 44

**Superclass:** SP

**Publication date:** November 2016

**Source:** Scottish Qualifications Authority

**Version:** 01

### Unit purpose

This unit is designed to develop the learner's knowledge of the basic principles of companion animal anatomical landmarks. It develops the learner's ability to identify external and internal features and structures and the vocabulary required to accurately describe them.

This unit is intended as a starting point for developing the learner's understanding of animal anatomy and could aid progression to units such as *Animal Care: Anatomy and Physiology of Mammals* at SCQF level 5.

This unit can be delivered as part of the SCQF level 4 Introduction to Animal Care National Certificate or as a stand-alone unit and is suitable for anyone wishing to pursue a career in the animal care sector.

### Outcomes

On successful completion of the unit the learner will be able to:

- 1 Identify external anatomical landmarks.
- 2 Identify internal anatomical landmarks.
- 3 Apply appropriate use of anatomical directions.

### Credit points and level

1 National unit credit at SCQF level 4: (6 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 4)

### Recommended entry to the unit

Entry to this unit is at the discretion of the delivering centre.

## **National unit specification: General information (cont)**

**Unit title:** Companion Animal Anatomical Landmarks (SCQF level 4)

### **Core Skills**

Opportunities to develop aspects of Core Skills are highlighted in the Support Notes for this unit specification.

There is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skill components in this unit.

### **Context for delivery**

If this unit is delivered as part of a Group Award, it is recommended that it should be taught and assessed within the subject area of the Group Award to which it contributes.

This unit is included within the SCQF level 4 Animal Care: An Introduction National Certificate.

### **Equality and inclusion**

This unit specification has been designed to ensure that there are no unnecessary barriers to learning or assessment. The individual needs of learners should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment methods or considering alternative evidence.

Further advice can be found on our website [www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements](http://www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements).

## **National unit specification: Statement of standards**

**Unit title:** Companion Animal Anatomical Landmarks (SCQF level 4)

Acceptable performance in this unit will be the satisfactory achievement of the standards set out in this part of the unit specification. All sections of the statement of standards are mandatory and cannot be altered without reference to SQA.

### **Outcome 1**

Identify external anatomical landmarks.

#### **Performance Criteria**

- (a) Identify external anatomical features in a range of companion animal species.

### **Outcome 2**

Identify internal anatomical landmarks.

#### **Performance Criteria**

- (a) Identify structures found in the thoracic cavity.
- (b) Identify structures found in the abdominal cavity.
- (c) Identify structures found in the pelvic cavity.
- (d) Identify structures found in the minor cavities.

### **Outcome 3**

Apply appropriate use of anatomical directions.

#### **Performance Criteria**

- (a) Use correct anatomical directions in relation to internal and external companion animal structures.

## National unit specification: Statement of standards (cont)

**Unit title:** Companion Animal Anatomical Landmarks (SCQF level 4)

### Evidence Requirements for this unit

Evidence is required to demonstrate that learners have achieved all Outcomes and Performance Criteria.

#### Outcome 1

Evidence is required of the learner's ability to identify a minimum of seven external features, for three *significantly* different companion animal species (minimum of 21 features required).

#### Outcome 2

Evidence is required of the learner's ability to identify a minimum of seven internal features, including structures found in each of the following cavities:

- ◆ Cranial
- ◆ Oral
- ◆ Thoracic
- ◆ Abdominal
- ◆ Pelvic

#### Outcome 3

Evidence is required of the learner's ability to correctly use the following anatomical directional terminology:

- ◆ Cranial
- ◆ Caudal
- ◆ Lateral
- ◆ Medial
- ◆ Dorsal
- ◆ Ventral
- ◆ Proximal
- ◆ Distal



## National unit Support Notes

**Unit title:** Companion Animal Anatomical Landmarks (SCQF level 4)

Unit Support Notes are offered as guidance and are not mandatory.

While the exact time allocated to this unit is at the discretion of the centre, the notional design length is 40 hours.

### Guidance on the content and context for this unit

This unit is designed to develop the learner's basic understanding of anatomical landmarks and directional terminology. On completion of the unit the learner will be able to identify the position of external and internal anatomical landmarks and will be able to apply the appropriate use of anatomical directions in practical situations.

Companion animals in the context of this unit could include (but is not limited to):

- ◆ Cats
- ◆ Dogs
- ◆ Rabbits
- ◆ Guinea pigs
- ◆ Chinchillas
- ◆ Rats
- ◆ Gerbils
- ◆ Mice
- ◆ Degus
- ◆ Horses

### Guidance on approaches to delivery of this unit

Learners could be given access to a range of live animals to help develop their skills in a practical context. Where live animals are used all due consideration should be given to the Health and Safety of learners and the health and wellbeing of the animals.

### Outcome 1 and Outcome 2

Annotated diagrams and practical demonstrations could be used to develop the learner's identification skills, which should cover a range of companion animal species.

## National unit Support Notes (cont)

**Unit title:** Companion Animal Anatomical Landmarks (SCQF level 4)

### Outcome 3

The learner should develop an understanding of anatomical directional terms and how they can be applied in the context of companion animal anatomy. The directional terms should include:

- ◆ Cranial
- ◆ Caudal
- ◆ Lateral
- ◆ Dorsal
- ◆ Ventral
- ◆ Proximal
- ◆ Distal

### Guidance on approaches to assessment of this unit

Evidence can be generated using different types of assessment. The following are suggestions only. There may be other methods that would be more suitable to learners.

Centres are reminded that prior verification of centre-devised assessments would help to ensure that the national standard is being met. Where learners experience a range of assessment methods, this helps them to develop different skills that should be transferable to work or further and higher education.

Outcome 1 could be assessed through practical identification tasks recorded using an observation checklist or through a written or recorded oral identification test using photographs and/or diagrams. A minimum of seven external features for each of three species is required, 10 examples could be provided for each species with the learner required to identify at least seven. Significantly different species in the context of this unit means for example a cat, a mouse and a horse rather than rat, mouse and degu.

Outcome 2 could be assessed through practical identification tasks recorded using an observation checklist or through a written or recorded oral identification tests using photographs and/or diagrams. A minimum of seven structures should be identified correctly, 10 examples could be provided from which the learner must identify at least seven. The structures should relate to the following cavities:

- ◆ Cranium
- ◆ Oral
- ◆ Thoracic
- ◆ Abdominal
- ◆ Pelvic

The assessment for Outcome 3 could be integrated with the assessments for Outcomes 1 and 2; an observation checklist could be used to record the learner's ability to correctly use directional terminology in the description of anatomical features and their relative positions.

## **National unit Support Notes (cont)**

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### **Opportunities for e-assessment**

E-assessment may be appropriate for some assessments in this unit. By e-assessment we mean assessment which is supported by Information and Communication Technology (ICT), such as e-testing or the use of e-portfolios or social software. Centres which wish to use e-assessment must ensure that the national standard is applied to all learner evidence and that conditions of assessment as specified in the Evidence Requirements are met, regardless of the mode of gathering evidence. The most up-to-date guidance on the use of e-assessment to support SQA's qualifications is available at [www.sqa.org.uk/e-assessment](http://www.sqa.org.uk/e-assessment).

### **Opportunities for developing Core and other essential skills**

There is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components in this unit, however there may be opportunities to develop the Core Skills of *Communication*, *Problem Solving* and *Working with Others* at SCQF level 4.

## History of changes to unit

Version	Description of change	Date

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## General information for learners

### Unit title: Companion Animal Anatomical Landmarks (SCQF level 4)

This section will help you decide whether this is the unit for you by explaining what the unit is about, what you should know or be able to do before you start, what you will need to do during the unit and opportunities for further learning and employment.

This unit is designed to provide you with knowledge of companion animal anatomical landmarks and to develop the terminology required to accurately describe them.

On completion of this unit you will be able to:

- ◆ identify external anatomical landmarks.
- ◆ identify internal anatomical landmarks.
- ◆ apply appropriate use of anatomical directions.

This unit is suitable for you if you want to pursue a career in the animal care industry but don't yet have much experience, you could study for this unit as part of a SCQF level 4 National Certificate in An Introduction to Animal Care or as a free-standing unit.

You are likely to be assessed using a mixture of practical and theory assessments, working with live animals when possible but also using diagrams and photographs.

In addition to the knowledge and skills detailed above you may also have the opportunity to develop the Core Skills of *Communication, Problem Solving* and *Working with Others*.