POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position	Veterinary Nurse (Emergency & Critical Care)
Level/Classification	HEW0404
Reports to	Nurse Coordinator (Emergency & Critical Care)
Unit	The Animal Hospital
Directorate	School of Veterinary Medicine
Positions Supervised	Nil

Position Purpose

The key purpose of this role is to provide high quality veterinary nursing care to animals in The Animal Hospital at Murdoch University.

About Murdoch University

Murdoch University is a young and dynamic university with a foundational commitment to the environment, social justice and inclusion, and making education accessible to more people. Founded as Western Australia's second university in 1974, today, Murdoch has more than 21,000 students and 1,700 staff across campuses in Perth, Singapore and Dubai. With more than 90,000 Alumni, Murdoch graduates can be found all over the world, making a positive difference.

Our Strategy – Ngala Kwop Biddi. Building a brighter future, together – guides the University's direction and reaffirms our shared purpose to change lives and society for the better through accessible education and research.

The Strategy is focused on three key themes:

- Sustainability: Be a leading university in education, teaching and translational research in sustainability.
- Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion: Build a welcoming, diverse and inclusive community.
- First Nations: Become the University of first choice for First Nations peoples.

Murdoch is also committed to building engagement with our local community, State, nation, and global society with a track-record in creating strong partnerships with business, government and industry.

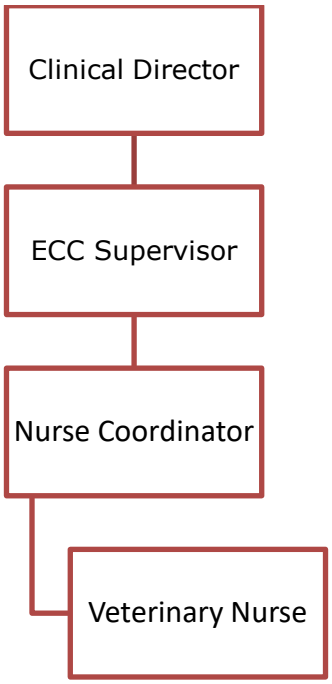
About the Work Area

Murdoch University is home to the only Veterinary School in Western Australia, and its prestigious teaching hospital provides the clinical facility that enables students to have the clinical 'hands-on' opportunity. It also provides a service to community through its team of top specialists who oversee the care and treatment of all animals referred to the Hospital.

The emergency team consists of several veterinarians and nurses who work in a 24/7 hospital facility. Emergency and Critical Care specialists provide a trainee and residency program along with training and guidance opportunities for the emergency team members. The hospital also receives afterhours support from various specialist services to ensure optimal care and treatment plans for all animals

The Animal Hospital at Murdoch University (TAHMU) aims to provide an environment where high professional and clinical standards, based on available scientific evidence, are tempered with genuine care and compassion.

Reporting Relationships



Key Responsibilities/Duties

1. Provide all aspects of veterinary nursing care as per the Certificate IV of Veterinary Nursing and the Prescribed Duties of Veterinary Nurses within the Vet Surgeons Act of WA.
2. Comply with University and TAHMU policies, procedures and protocols. Comply with The Veterinary Surgeons' Act of WA and other veterinary industry related Acts and Regulations.
3. Liaise with clinical areas within the hospital to coordinate daily availability of equipment and technical support.

4. Assist clinicians with examinations, workups, procedures, treatments and surgeries.
5. Triage patients according to hospital policy, by phone or on arrival.
6. Oversee patient care in the patient wards and during and after procedures.
7. Communicate with and respond to enquiries from veterinary hospital clients, referring veterinarians and general public by various means such as sms; telephone; email.
8. Work closely with key stakeholders to improve services and processes in order to meet the business requirements of the veterinary hospital.
9. Assist with the admission and discharge of patients and assist with client enquiries.
10. Instruct students in correct methods of instrument and drape preparation; surgical site preparation; aseptic techniques and monitor the application and maintenance of those techniques.
11. Demonstrate to and supervise students in safe and correct animal handling and restraint techniques.
12. Maintain stock levels and supplies for all clinical areas within the hospital and advise the relevant people of stock deficiencies, equipment malfunction and nursing problems within the Hospital.
13. Maintain a clean and hygienic hospital environment.
14. Maintain a high standard of medical care for all patients.
15. Maintain up to date knowledge of current safety requirements within the hospital;
16. Maintain infection control procedures throughout the hospital;
17. Set up and maintain correct isolation protocol for infective cases and monitor the supervision and instruction of students in correct barrier nursing techniques;
18. Maintain and apply current knowledge of relevant zoonoses to vet nursing situations.
19. Record and document procedures performed on patients and enter the relevant charges on the computer.
20. Assist in stock takes as required.
21. Oversee laboratory submissions and maintain nursing aspects of patient records.
22. Assist in CSSD with cleaning, processing and sterilising of equipment.
23. Assist in all areas across the hospital as required.

Selection Criteria

Essential

1. Completion of a Certificate IV in Veterinary Nursing or equivalent, or completion of a relevant Veterinary Nursing Diploma level qualification registrable in Western Australia.
2. A minimum of 2 years' experience working in a veterinary practice, post qualification.
3. Demonstrated confidence and skill when handling and restraining small animals.

4. Demonstrated exposure to emergency and critical care skills in a general practice setting
5. Excellent organisational, time and workload management skills, including the ability to prioritise workload to meet strict deadlines.
6. Highly effective communication, customer service and interpersonal skills, and the demonstrated ability to interact constructively and collaboratively with staff at all levels of the organisation.
7. Demonstrated ability to use initiative, assume responsibility for tasks and projects and to resolve problems.
8. Proven ability to work independently as well as fitting seamlessly into a team environment.
9. Ability to work rotational shift work, including nights, weekends and public holidays as required.
10. A strong interest in developing nursing skills within a specialised area.

Desirable

1. Previous experience in a veterinary teaching hospital environment.
2. Experience in emergency and critical care specialist setting.
3. Experience with computer systems used in veterinary practices, in particular ezyVet, Vet Radar and Cubex software.
4. Experience in training undergraduate students in the workplace.
5. Experience and knowledge in the use and care of endoscopes.
6. Demonstrated computer skills and experience.

Work Requirements

1. Australian permanent residency or possession of a valid visa with work entitlement in Australia.
2. Ability to work outside of normal office hours when required.
3. Be able to provide evidence of appropriate vaccination or immunity in accordance with the University's Immunisation Policy. Please check the Immunisation Policy if the role requires this).

General Obligations

While at work, an employee must:

- take reasonable care for their own health and safety and ensure that their acts or omissions do not adversely affect the health and safety of other persons;
- report incidents, injuries and hazards;
- comply with any reasonable instruction that is given by Murdoch University; and

- comply with Murdoch University policies and procedures.

Guiding Principles and Values/Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct

Our Values

- Authenticity
- Integrity
- Respect
- Inclusivity
- Openness

Our Principles

- Act with justice, respect and responsible care.
- Be collegiate and respectful of other points of view.
- Protect academic freedom.
- Be agile, flexible and resilient.
- Make decisions at the most appropriate level.
- Be transparent in decision-making and with information.
- Adopt common approaches to common tasks.
- Be careful stewards of our resources.

All staff will comply with the University's Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct and demonstrate a commitment to its Equity, Diversity and Safety principles and the general capabilities of personal effectiveness, working collaboratively and demonstrating a focus on results.

All staff complete a Career Development Conversation annually to discuss their career aspirations and growth opportunities.

All Staff undergoing a probation period are required to set probationary objectives with their leader within 3 months of commencement.

We acknowledge that Murdoch University is situated on the lands of the Whadjuk and Binjareb Noongar people. We pay our respects to their enduring and dynamic culture and the leadership of Noongar elders past and present. The boodjar (country) on which Murdoch University is located has, for thousands of years, been a place of learning. We at Murdoch University are proud to continue this long tradition.