



Ref: CTO 2017 003 [G]

Cats and Dogs: Lapse between rabies vaccinations

CTO direction to biosecurity inspectors for the clearance of cats and dogs when a lapse has occurred between rabies vaccinations

Pursuant to section 27(1)(d)(iii) of the Biosecurity Act 1993 I, Lucy Johnston, Manager Animal Imports, give the following directions, different from those measures in the applicable Import Health Standard for Cats and Dogs (CATDOG.GEN):

Equivalence is given to Clause 2.1 (2) and (3) of the IHS (Rabies):

(2) The animal has been vaccinated against rabies with a government approved inactivated virus vaccine or recombinant vaccine expressing the rabies virus glycoprotein:

a) In the case of a primary vaccination, the vaccine was given not less than six months and not more than one year prior to the date of shipment, when the animal was at least three months old. A copy of the vaccine certificate is required; or

b) If a booster vaccination, the vaccine was given not more than one year prior to the date of shipment. A copy of the most recent and previous vaccination certificate is required.

Note: rabies vaccination must be kept up-to-date from the date of sample collection for the rabies titre test to the date of shipment; and

(3) The animal has been subjected to a rabies antibody test (as prescribed in the Manual) on a sample collected not less than three months and not more than 24 months prior to the date of shipment, with a result of at least 0.5 IU/ml;

A lapse of a maximum of 7 days between rabies vaccinations is not considered to significantly increase the risk of rabies infection.

The reason for directing clearance is that the biosecurity risks associated with this CTO direction have been assessed and are managed effectively.

This direction takes effect from the date of signing and continues in effect until amended or revoked.