



Ref: CTO 2017 043 [1]

Dog: Lapse between rabies vaccinations

**CTO direction as to equivalent measures in relation to cats and dogs imported under the IHS  
catdog.gen**

Pursuant to section 27(1)(d)(iii) of the Biosecurity Act 1993 I, Vicki Melville, Manager Animal Imports, Ministry for Primary Industries (under delegated authority), give the following directions for a dog, microchip number 985 112 003 001 104, in relation to the import health standard: Import Health Standard for Cats and Dogs (CATDOG.GEN):

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

2.1 (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

2.1 (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;

Based on the rabies vaccinations below, a lapse of a 14 days between rabies vaccinations is not considered to significantly increase the risk of rabies infection.

29 May 2013 (1 year duration of immunity)

1 May 2014 (3 year duration of immunity)

15 May 2017 (3 year duration of immunity)

In addition, the dog identified above was not microchipped at the time of the rabies vaccination dated 1 May 2014. The Seeing Eye, a member school of the International Federation of Guide Dog Schools has confirmed that the dog was part of their breeding programme and was tattooed with the number 2013225 prior to the 2014 rabies vaccination.

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