



Ref: CTO 2015 062 [B]

Animal Tissues: Glutaraldehyde as a Fixative

**CTO direction to biosecurity inspectors for the clearance of *animal tissues fixed in glutaraldehyde*.**

Pursuant to section 27(1)(d)(iii) of the Biosecurity Act 1993 I, Marnie Thomas, Manager Animal Imports, Ministry for Primary Industries (under delegated authority), give the following directions for animal tissues fixed in glutaraldehyde to be given clearance in accordance with the following measures, different from those in the applicable import health standard for the importation into New Zealand of nonviable animal specimens from all countries (INESPEIC.ALL):

Under clause 6.3, specimens of animal tissue preserved in liquid formalin do not require an import permit. Equivalence is granted for tissue specimens less than 2 mm thick fixed in 2 to 4% glutaraldehyde for electron microscope imaging, or larger samples fixed in 2 to 4% glutaraldehyde by intracanalicular active perfusion.

Preserved specimens of animal tissue are often imported into New Zealand. After assessing advice given by the Investigation and Diagnostic Centre – Wallaceville and the University of Auckland, it has been deemed that the biosecurity risk associated with these tissues would be effectively mitigated if they are fixed in 2 to 4% glutaraldehyde.

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