



Ref: CTO 2016 001 [1]

Dog: Expired Rabies Vaccination Prior to Booster

**CTO direction to biosecurity inspectors for the clearance of a dog from France (Permit to Import Number: 2015 058592)**

Pursuant to section 27(1)(d)(iii) of the Biosecurity Act 1993 I, Anne Kramer, Acting Manager Animal Imports, Ministry for Primary Industries (under delegated authority), give the following directions for a dog to be given clearance in accordance with the following measures, different from those in the applicable import health standard [Import Health Standard Cats and Dogs: CATDOG.GEN].

Equivalence is granted for Clause 2.1 (2) of the IHS relating to rabies vaccination(s):

The dog was given a rabies vaccination (Rabisin-R) in July 2013 in the United Kingdom. At this time, the vaccine had a licensed duration of immunity of 2 years. The dog was given another vaccination in September 2015 in France. Due to the 2013 vaccination no longer being valid at the time of the vaccination in 2015, the 2015 vaccination would be considered the primary vaccination for the purpose of import into New Zealand. The dog would not be eligible for entry for six months from the date of the 2015 vaccination. Due to an import permit being issued and the dog being certified for export by a French official veterinarian, the dog entered New Zealand on 25 December 2015.

Merial has since confirmed that the licensed duration of immunity of Rabisin-R changed from 2 to 3 years in late 2014. Merial has also confirmed that the formulation of the vaccine did not change during this period. Therefore, the vaccine given to this dog in 2013 can be considered to have a 3-year duration of immunity, even though the licensed duration of immunity was 2 years at the time it was given. This provides assurance that the dog had rabies protection by vaccination at the time the vaccination was given in 2015.

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

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