Ref: CTO 2019 015 [VS]
Dogs: Imidocarb Dipropionate Treatment

CTO direction as to equivalent measures in relation to imidocarb dipropionate treatment option for dogs from mainland Africa

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

Equivalence is given to the following clause in the *Babesia canis* section of the IHS:

2.4 (2): The dog has been given an approved treatment for *Babesia canis* in the 16 days prior to the date of shipment.

Category 3: Model Veterinary Certificate A states the following:

The dog has been given one injection of imidocarb dipropionate at 7.5 mg/kg IM in the 16 days prior to the date of shipment.

Equivalence is given to allow treatment, at the same dose rate as specified in the model veterinary certificates, to be given by subcutaneous rather than intramuscular injection.

The manufacturers' directions for Imizol and Forray 65 (imidocarb dipropionate) state that the products should be administered by either subcutaneous or intramuscular injection at a dose rate of 6.6 mg/kg with a repeat dose in two weeks, or by subcutaneous injection at a single dose 6.0 mg/kg, respectively.

The 2009 Import Risk Analysis (IRA) for Cats, Dogs and Canine semen states that a single dose at 7.5 kg/mg by intramuscular injection should be given but does not specify the reason(s) for why this administration route and a higher dose rate should be used. However, the 2013 policy review by the Australian Department of Agriculture and Water Resources on the importation of dogs and cats and their semen from approved countries states the following: *A single treatment with imidocarb dipropionate at a rate of 7.5 mg/kg body weight by subcutaneous injection is the recommended single-dose treatment against infection with the large (2 µm x 5 µm) Babesia piroplasms (B. canis subspp.). Alternatively, repeat treatments with imidocarb dipropionate at rates ranging from 5.0 to 6.6 mg/kg body weight by subcutaneous or intramuscular injection administered two weeks apart have been recommended as effective (Penzhorn et al. 1995; Taboada and Lobetti 2006). Single-dose administration of imidocarb dipropionate at a rate of 6.6 mg/kg body weight was shown to provide prophylactic protection for two weeks against B. canis (assumed B. canis canis) infection in a small study (Vercammen et al. 1996a). This contrasted with the manufacturer's claim of three to four weeks protection against infection.*

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This equivalence does not increase the risk of *Babesia canis* entering New Zealand.

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.