



Dogs and Cats to the People's Republic of China (Guidance)

CNPET9

Effective from 1 September 2024

1 Document History

Version Date	Section Changed	Change(s) Description
1 September 2024	All sections	New Guidance Document for <i>Dogs and Cats to the People's Republic of China (OMAR)</i> , dated 1 September 2024.
2 September 2024	3(6)b)	Clarification that owner can travel separately from animal, if the owner is present at time of the animals clearance in China and can provide their own passport.
24 February 2025	4(4)(a)	Clarification that other airports may be used to receive the animal, if additional permission from the clearance airport is provided.

2 Purpose

- (1) This guidance document has been issued to accompany the corresponding Overseas Market Access Requirements (*OMAR*). This guidance document should be read in conjunction with that *OMAR*.

3 Specific guidance for the zoosanitary certificate

- (1) The animal for export is to fully comply with the *Animal Products Notice: Export Requirements for Live Animals Microchipping*.
- (2) An import permit is not required.
- (3) Regarding general vaccination requirements:
 - a) Vaccinated means the animal has either received the final dose of a primary vaccination course or the booster to complement the primary course in any required timeframes and the duration of immunity is continuous until the scheduled time of export.
 - b) Manufacturer's instructions or recommendations refers to the administration of the vaccine at the age and frequency that is recommended by the manufacturer to achieve protection. The clinical veterinarian should refer to the manufacturer, as well as current national and international vaccine guidelines, to determine the frequency of vaccinations.
 - c) The vaccination requirements are considered satisfied if:

- i) the animal's microchip is verified at the time of vaccine administration,
 - ii) the animal is the age recommended by the manufacturer when receiving the vaccine.
 - iii) the vaccine(s) has not expired at the time of administration. That is, vaccines can be used up until and including on their expiry date, but not after.
- d) The vaccine's duration of immunity or next vaccine due date should be determined by the clinical veterinarian administering the vaccine and recorded on the vaccine record. The duration of immunity should not be longer than the manufacturer's recommendations.
 - i) If the vaccine is not administered before or on the due date, then it is considered to have lapsed.
 - ii) If a vaccine's duration of immunity lapses, a clinical veterinarian should determine whether a primary vaccination course should be repeated, or just a booster, but this should align with the manufacturer's instructions.
 - iii) Despite the guidance in point d), for the People's Republic of China, the duration of the immunity for the rabies vaccine is up to a year (12 months) even if manufacturer recommendations suggest a 3-year immunity period.
- (4) In addition to the general vaccination requirements above:
 - a) Regarding clause 1.4 of the export certificate, the rabies vaccination must be given when the animal is at least 3 months of age.
 - b) Regarding clauses 2.1 and 3.1 of the export certificate, the vaccinations must be given at least 14 days and not more than 12 months prior to the date of export.
- (5) The vaccination records must be attached to the export health certificate, and the document must accompany the dog or cat to China.
- (6) The agreed export certificate supports only non - commercial movements of cats and dogs.
 - a) This means for the People's Republic of China that it is **strictly limited to one dog or one cat per owner**.
 - b) It is possible for the dog or cat to travel separately from the owner if the owner can present their passport at the time of clearance of the dog or cat in China.
 - c) The owner's passport must be presented at the time of clearance in China.
 - d) The name on the owner's passport must match the owners name on the health certificate and the vaccination record.
- (7) Regarding clause 4, the exporter is required to provide a signed declaration to the MPI Official Veterinarian in relation to the crate being thoroughly cleaned and disinfected.

4 Additional information

- (1) Further information taken from the requirements for the importation of dogs and cats to the People's Republic of China suggests:
- (2) All vaccination certificates must identify:
 - a) the name and address of the veterinary practice,
 - b) the name of the attending veterinarian;
 - c) the name of the owner of the dog or cat;
 - d) description of the animal including age and microchip number;
 - e) the date of vaccination;
 - f) the vaccine used including serial and batch number; and in the case of the vaccination against rabies the use by date of the vaccine.
- (3) All dogs and cats on arrival in China are required to undergo post arrival quarantine for a minimum of 7 days in a centre designated by Chinese authorities.
- (4) Pets can arrive in China in the cabin or as checked baggage or air cargo at international airports including Shanghai, Beijing, Shenzhen and Guangzhou.

- a) Pets may arrive in other airports other than the ones outlined in 4(4) provided the clearing airport provides permission for the animals arrival, and the permission is provided to MPI.
 - b) There are no quarantine facilities at any of the airports other than those listed in clause 4(4). Therefore if the animal arrives at a port other than the ones outlined in 4(4) and it does not comply with all requirements the animal will either be reshipped at the owner's expense or destroyed.
 - c) There is no option of transferring to a quarantine facility in the event of non-compliance if the animal arrives at a port other than those listed in 4(4).
- (5) Exemptions for quarantine: working dogs, such as guide dogs etc. with the relevant certificates of professional training, may be exempted from isolation quarantine.
 - (6) Feed and bedding to be used during the isolation and transportation shall not originate from epizootic disease affected areas and shall meet veterinary hygienic standards.

5 Returning to New Zealand

- (1) If you are planning on returning to New Zealand with your pet in the future, please contact the MPI Animal Imports team to obtain all the relevant information on importing pets back into New Zealand, and if there is anything that can expediate your animals return to New Zealand. We strongly suggest that this is done before your pet is exported from New Zealand, as not every country can meet the New Zealand import conditions, and so you may not be able to import your pet back into New Zealand.

For all the necessary information on importation into New Zealand, contact animal.imports@mpi.govt.nz.

Disclaimer

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