



# Dogs and Cats to Qatar (Guidance)

QAPET9

Effective from 2 August 2024

## 1 Document History

Version Date	Section Changed	Change(s) Description
2 August 2024	All sections	New Guidance Document for <i>Dogs and Cats to Qatar (OMAR)</i> , dated 2 August 2024.

## 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

### 3.1 Microchip

- (1) The dog(s) for export are to fully comply with the [Animal Products Notice: Export Requirements for Live Animals Microchipping](#).
- (2) The date format used throughout the official assurance (QAPET9) is to be captured as DD/Month/YYYY.
- (3) If the microchip implantation date is unknown, record the first verified scan of the microchip.
- (4) The microchip must be scanned, verified, and recorded immediately prior to the administration of the rabies vaccination to be considered valid.

### 3.2 Rabies vaccination

- (1) Nobivac Rabies (ACVM No. A009450), the rabies vaccine that is registered in New Zealand, provides a 3- year duration of immunity when the initial dose is administered at 12 weeks of age or older. No booster dose is necessary if the initial dose is given at this age.  
  
If the initial vaccination is administered earlier than 12 weeks, a second dose must be administered at 12 weeks of age.  
  
Minimum vaccination age for dogs and cats is 4 weeks.
- (2) The vaccination is considered valid 30 days after the administration of a primary vaccination.

### 3.3 General vaccinations

- (1) Regarding general vaccination requirements:
- a) Vaccinated means the animal(s) 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(s) is verified at the time of vaccine administration; and
    - ii) the animal is the age recommended by the manufacturer when receiving the vaccine; and
    - 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 vaccination 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.

## 4 Additional information

### 4.1 Import permit

- (1) The import permit can be obtained from the Department of Animal Resources at Qatar's Ministry of Municipality and Environment (MME).
- (2) The import permit should be issued at least 30 days prior to the animal's arrival in Qatar.
- (3) The import permit application requires various pieces of supporting documentation which includes but is not limited to:
- a) Proof of rabies vaccination
  - b) Laboratory report for rabies titre test.

### 4.2 Prohibited breeds of dog

Afghan Hound	Bull Terrier	Japanese Akita
American Staffordshire Terrier	Bulldog	Neapolitan Mastiff
Boerboel Terrier	Chinese Shar-Pei	Rottweiler
Boxer	Doberman	Staffordshire Bull Terrier
	Great Dane	

### 4.3 Animal Welfare Export Certificate (AWEC)

- (1) An Animal Welfare Export Certificate (AWEC) is required for all dogs and cats exported from New Zealand to Qatar.
- (2) The AWEC certificate is New Zealand's own separate legislation and should not be presented to the competent authority of Qatar.
- (3) The link for the AWEC supporting declaration is below: <https://www.mpi.govt.nz/dmsdocument/62859-Owner-Vet-supporting-declaration-form-for-MPI-pet-official-export-certification-and-AWECs-including-pets-to-Australia>

### 4.4 Travel to Qatar

- (1) The crate for airline travel must be rigid and constructed and sized in accordance with the current Live Animal Regulations of the International Air Transport Association (IATA).
  - a) IATA information regarding the transportation of pets can be found at the following link: [IATA - Traveling with Pets](#)
- (2) Dogs and cats are permitted entry into Qatar via Hamad International Airport in Doha.
- (3) Dogs and cats are permitted to travel in cabin if:
  - a) The airline has provided written permission for the carriage of the identified dog or cat in the cabin.
  - b) The animal is contained in a rigid crate which meets the criteria in 4.3(1) of this document, or the airline has given permission for travel in the cabin without a container.
  - c) The MPI Official Veterinarian will need to see evidence of the airline permission and will inspect the crate to ensure it is rigid and meets the criteria in 4.3(1) of this document.

## 5 Further information from Qatar

- (1) Further information taken from the requirements for the importation of dogs and cats to Qatar suggests:
  - a) Qatar currently has a one pet per person policy for imports.
  - b) Qatar does not have mandatory quarantine for pets that meet the health requirements. If the health requirements are not met, pets may be quarantined at the owner's expense.

## 6 Guidance for the completion of QAPET9

- (1) Each animal requires its own official assurance, noting section 5(1)(a) of this guidance document.

## 7 Return to New Zealand

- (1) If you are planning on returning to New Zealand with your pet in the future, please contact the MPI Animal Approvals & Advice (previously named 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](mailto:animal.imports@mpi.govt.nz).

## Disclaimer

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