



January 28th 2022

TN 02/2022: Trader Notice on animal health (rabies) requirements of commercial consignments of dogs/cats/ferrets transiting through a territory or third country not listed in Annex II of EU Regulation 577/2013 (e.g. Qatar/Turkey)

All commercial consignments dogs/cats/ferrets entering the EU must fulfill health requirements to prevent the import of animals which may be at risk of carrying rabies to the EU. These requirements vary depending on country of origin and whether the animal transits another third country during their movement to the Union.

Commercial movements of dogs/cats/ferrets (i.e. those which are not accompanied by their owner, or travel within 5 days of their owner, or where the number in the consignment is >5 animals) must be accompanied by the model health cert CANIS-FELIS-FERRETS as per Chapter 38 of Regulation 2021/403.

Rabies animal health requirements:

If a dog/cat/ferret is entering the EU from a third country listed in Annex II of Regulation 577/2013 (country list in Appendix 1 to this TN) then vaccination against rabies (in accordance with the rules in Appendix 2 to this TN) is required.

However, if the dog/cat/ferret transits* through a third country which is NOT listed in Regulation 577/2013, then the animal must also have undergone a valid rabies neutralising antibody titration test (in accordance with the rules in Appendix 3 to this TN).

**If the animal changes aircraft in a non-listed third country, and even if the animal remains airside during this change, this is considered a transit for animal health purposes.*

Travel Options and Rabies health requirements:

- 1. Transit through third country listed in Regulation 577/2013 (see list in Appendix 1)(e.g. UK)**
 - vaccination only in accordance with rules listed in Appendix 2
- 2. Transit through a third country NOT listed in Regulation 577/2013 (see list in Appendix 1)(e.g. Qatar/Turkey)**
 - Rabies vaccination in accordance with rules listed in Appendix 2 **AND**
 - RNAT test – must satisfy the requirements as detailed Appendix 3
- 3. Travel as pet (must fulfill criteria, see details [Pet Travel: OutsideEU](#))**
 - Rabies vaccination in accordance with rules listed in Appendix 2



Echinococcus treatment – amendment to timeframe:

Please note that Ireland is free of *Echinococcus* so all dogs/cats/ferrets entering Ireland must be treated against infestation with *Echinococcus multilocularis* by a veterinarian. The timeframe within which this treatment should be provided has reduced to ‘a period commencing **not more than 48 hours and ending not less than 24 hours** before the time of arrival’ in the EU. Details of the treatment must be provided on the accompanying health cert.

General Import Requirements:

General import requirements also apply to commercial movements of dogs, cats and ferrets. Please see [gov.ie - Commercial Dogs, Cats and Ferrets \(www.gov.ie\)](http://gov.ie - Commercial Dogs, Cats and Ferrets (www.gov.ie))

Consignments not meeting all import conditions and seeking entry to the European Union shall be placed under official detention at the BCP, in this case quarantine (at the operator responsible for the consignment’s expense), and may be delayed or refused entry into the Union.

Date of entry into force:

Flexibility will be permitted until **30th April 2022** whereby commercial dogs/cats/ferrets may travel on the model health certs under the rules prior to Animal Health Law. Following this date, all commercial movements of dogs, cats and ferrets will be expected to comply with the conditions of this notice and risk being refused entry or being subjected to quarantine at the operators’ expense until the import conditions are met.

For additional queries on these requirements or to discuss individual cases which may already have been initiated prior to this notice please contact the BCP at BCP.DublinAirport@agriculture.gov.ie

This notice is published at: [gov.ie - Import of Animals and Animal Products \(www.gov.ie\)](http://gov.ie - Import of Animals and Animal Products (www.gov.ie))



Appendix 1:

List of territories and third countries

Territory or Third Country	Included territories
Ascension Island	
United Arab Emirates	
Antigua and Barbuda	
Argentina	
Australia	
Aruba	
Bosnia and Herzegovina	
Barbados	
Bahrain	
Bermuda	
Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba (the BES Islands)	
Belarus	
Canada	
Chile	
Curaçao	
Fiji	
Falkland Islands	
United Kingdom	
Guernsey	
Hong Kong	
Isle of Man	
Jamaica	
Japan	
Jersey	
Saint Kitts and Nevis	
Cayman Islands	
Saint Lucia	
Montserrat	
North Macedonia	
Mauritius	
Mexico	
Malaysia	
New Caledonia	



New Zealand	
French Polynesia	
Saint Pierre and Miquelon	
Russia	
Singapore	
Saint Helena	
Sint Maarten	
Trinidad and Tobago	
Taiwan	
United States of America	American Samoa Guam Northern Mariana Islands Puerto Rico US Virgin Islands
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	
British Virgin Islands	
Vanuatu	
Wallis and Futuna	

Appendix 2:

Rules regarding rabies vaccination:

- (i) the animals must be at least 12 weeks old at the time of vaccination;
- (ii) the vaccine must comply with the requirements set out in Annex III to Regulation (EU) No 576/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council
- (iii) at the day of dispatch to the Union, at least 21 days must have elapsed since the completion of the primary vaccination against infection with rabies virus;
- (iv) a certified copy of the vaccination details must be attached to the accompanying official animal health certificate

Appendix 3

RNAT Test Requirements (point 1 of Annex XXI - [Delegated Regulation \(EU\) 2020/692](#))

- i) must be carried out on a sample collected by a veterinarian authorised by the competent authority during the period commencing at least 30 days after the date of the primary vaccination, within a current valid vaccination series, and ending 3 months before the date of issue of the certificate;
- ii) must measure a titre of neutralising antibody to rabies virus equal to or greater than 0,5 IU/ml;



- iii) must be certified by an official report from the official laboratory as regards the result, and a copy of this report must be attached to the animal health certificate accompanying the animals to the Union;

A list of labs approved to perform this test is available at

https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/movement-pets/approved-rabies-serology-laboratories_en

- iv) does not have to be renewed on an animal which, following the antibody rabies titration test with satisfactory results, has been revaccinated against rabies within the period of validity of the primary vaccination referred to in point (a) and all subsequent valid vaccinations in the series.