

TEST, VACCINATION AND TREATMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR ENTRY OF DOGS AND CATS INTO JAMAICA

MICROCHIP REQUIREMENTS

Dogs and cats must first be identified by an ISO standard microchip that can be read by an AVID or other ISO compatible reader.

- The scanned microchip number must be correctly recorded on all documentation.
- If the microchip cannot be read or is recorded incorrectly across the dog's or cat's documentation, it will not be eligible for import to Jamaica.
- If the dog or cat was vaccinated for rabies prior to being fitted with a microchip, the dog or cat must be re-vaccinated after the microchip is implanted.

RABIES TEST AND VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS

- The dog or cat must be vaccinated against the rabies virus with an approved inactivated vaccine.
- Only vaccines produced in compliance with the recommendations of the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) Terrestrial Manual should be used.
- The dog must be vaccinated with an inactivated rabies virus vaccine that:
 - **Primary vaccination:** the rabies vaccine was administered not less than six (6) months and not more than one (1) year prior to the date of shipment, when the animal was at least three (3) months or ninety (90) days old. A copy of the vaccine certificate is required; OR
 - **Booster vaccination (older animal):** the vaccine was given not more than one year prior to the date of shipment. A copy of the most recent vaccination certificate is required;
- The dog or cat has achieved a post-vaccination rabies virus neutralizing antibody titre of at least 0.5 IU/mL between three (3) months and twelve (12) months before importation;
- A result of less than 0.5 IU/ml is not acceptable and in this circumstance the dog or cat must re-vaccinate and the testing process repeated.
- The Rabies Neutralizing Antibody Test must be a fluorescent antibody virus neutralization (FAVN) test and MUST be done by an OIE/WHO approved rabies reference laboratory (for example Rabies Diagnostic Laboratory, Kansas State University, USA; Animal Health & Veterinary Laboratories Agency, Weybridge, United Kingdom).
- The laboratory reports must:
 - be in English;
 - be completed on the testing laboratory's letterhead;
 - include:
 - the dog's microchip number;
 - the date the blood was drawn and the date of arrival of the blood sample the laboratory;
 - the signature of the authorized person issuing the laboratory report;
 - the country where the blood sample was collected;
 - the test type and test result.

- The dog or cat may only be eligible for entry into the Jamaica not less than three (3) months and not more than twelve (12) months after the date the blood sample that gave successful fluorescent antibody virus neutralization (FAVN) test result was drawn.

OTHER TEST, TREATMENTS AND VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS

Importers are advised that the following test and vaccination requirements be conducted once their **Preliminary Application Form** has been approved and have been issued with a Valid **Veterinary Import Permit**.

Helminths and Tapeworm:

- Faecal examinations must be conducted by a approved licensed veterinarian and found with negative results
- The dog/cat treated must be treated **twice** by an approved licensed veterinarian, at least fourteen (14) days apart with the final treatment within seven (7) days prior to export. Treatment should be with broad spectrum anthelmintic(s) that is/are registered for use in the country of origin and effective against the nematodes, cestodes and trematodes. The approved licensed veterinarian should clearly state the active ingredients, product name, dose rate and dates of treatment.
- For tapeworms a preparation containing praziquantel at a dose rate of 5mg/kg body weight

Coccidiosis:

- A recognized test for coccidiosis must be performed on the dog or cat with negative results
- If positive, the dog/ cat must be treated with an effective product for the treatment of coccidial infections according to the manufacturer's recommendations within 21-30 days of travel.

External parasites:

- The dog or cat must be examined by an approved licensed veterinarian and certified as free of external parasites
- The dog or cat must be treated by an approved licensed veterinarian **twice** using products registered in the exporting country for the control of **fleas, ticks, lice and mites** at the manufacturer's recommended dose. The first treatment to be given thirty (30) days prior to the date of shipment, and the second treatment, within seven (7) days of export. The approved licensed veterinarian should clearly state the active ingredients, product name, dose rate and dates of treatment and certify each dog or cat as free from external parasites at each treatment

Primary vaccinations:

Dogs

- Each dog was vaccinated according to the vaccine manufacturer's recommendations against canine distemper virus, canine parvovirus, canine infectious hepatitis virus or; canine adenovirus type 2 (canine respiratory disease complex) and canine parainfluenza virus not less than two (2) weeks or fourteen (14) days prior to export.

Cats

- Each cat shall be vaccinated according to the vaccine manufacturer's recommendations against feline herpesvirus 1 (FHV1), feline calicivirus (FCV), feline panleukopenia virus (FPV), feline leukaemia virus (FeLV - kittens) not less than two (2) weeks or fourteen (14) days prior to export.

Leptospirosis:

- the dog was treated against *Leptospira interrogans serovar canicola* with an approved course of treatment within thirty (30) days prior to the date of shipment; (*State the active ingredient, product name, dose rate and date of treatment*), **OR**
- The dog has been vaccinated against *Leptospira interrogans serovar canicola* and is up to date with booster vaccines.

Heartworm (*Dirofilaria immitis*):

- If six (6) months of age or older on the date of shipment, the dog has been subjected to a heartworm antigen ELISA test with a negative result within thirty (30) days prior to the date of shipment.
- ALL DOGS (regardless of age) have either been treated with a product registered for heartworm prevention at the manufacturer's recommended dose within seven (7) days of export

Leishmaniosis:

- Dogs must be tested for *Leishmania infantum* infection by an indirect fluorescent antibody test (IFAT) or an enzyme linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA).
- The test must produce a negative result within 45 days of export. This test may not be required if the country is free of Leishmaniosis. This should be CLEARLY stated in the veterinary health certificate.

Babesiosis, Lyme disease and Ehrlichiosis:

- Each dog has been tested using an approved test inclusive of ELISA for *Babesia canis*, *Babesia gibsoni*, *Borrelia burgdorferi*, and *Ehrlichia canis* with negative results within sixteen (16) days of export.

Brucella canis:

- The dog has been subjected to a rapid slide agglutination test (RSAT), **or** a cytoplasmic agar gel immunodiffusion test (CPAg-AGID), **or** a tube agglutination test (TAT) with negative results within forty-five (45) days prior to the date of export; **AND**
- The dog was not mated to a dog of lesser *Brucella canis* health status in the forty –five (45) days prior to the date of shipment.
- This test may not be required if the country is free of *Brucella canis* infection or for dogs, which have been neutered/spayed. This should be CLEARLY stated in the veterinary health certificate.

Canine transmissible venereal tumour:

- The external genitalia of each dog was examined within seven (7) days prior to the date of shipment and no lesions suggestive of canine transmissible venereal tumour was observed.

Canine Influenza:

- The dog was examined and found free of infection with or signs and symptoms of canine influenza within seven (7) days of export.
- The dog was NOT vaccinated against canine influenza