Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) for

Quarantine Requirements for the Importation of Dogs and Cats

- ♦ What are the major differences between the updated "Quarantine Requirements for the Importation of Dogs and Cats" which was revised in February 2024 and the previous version?
- ♦ What do I need to do first if I want to bring my dog/cat to Taiwan from abroad?
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- ♦ Although the time interval between administering the rabies vaccine and the entry into Taiwan exceeds one year, the vaccine administered has a three-year validity period. I am concerned about its potential impact on animal health. Would the dog/cat still be eligible for entry into Taiwan one year after the date the rabies vaccine was administered?
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Question: What are the major differences between the updated "Quarantine Requirements for the Importation of Dogs and Cats" which was revised in February 2024 and the previous version?

Answer:

The main differences between the quarantine requirements before and after the revision are the requirements on the time to file an application period, the date of blood sampling for rabies neutralizing antibody titer test, and the requirements on changes in the importation date or the port of entry. Additionally, post-entry quarantined for importation from rabies-infected country can be waived under some conditions.

♦ Before the quarantine requirements were amended in February 2024, postentry quarantine can only be waived for dog/cat re-entering Taiwan within 90 days after exiting. After the February 2024 amendment, post-entry quarantine can be waived for dog/cat re-entering Taiwan within one year from the date of blood sampling, and blood must be sampling before exiting Taiwan. Additionally, for dog/cat that were originally not residing in Taiwan, there are also certain conditions under which post-entry quarantine can be waived. Below is a table comparing between the updated and previous version of the quarantine requirements:

For dog/cat exported from Taiwan to rabies-infected country and re-enter Taiwan						
	Old Quarantine Requirements	New Quarantine Requirements				
Application Period	At least 20 days prior to entering, or before exiting Taiwan					
Time for	Within 90 days after exiting	Within 1 year from the date				
Return	Taiwan	of blood sampling				
Date of Blood Sampling for Rabies Neutralizing Antibody Titer Test	<u> </u>	fore exiting Taiwan and within one year prior to re-entering Taiwan.				
Post-entry Quarantine	Exempted from post-entry quarantine					

For dog/cat living abroad or exceeding the time for re-entering Taiwan				
	Old & New Quarantine	New Quarantine Requirements on the		
	Requirements	exemption of post-entry quarantine		

Application	At least 20 days prior	At least 120	At least 20 days					
Period	to entering	days prior to	prior to entering					
		entering						
Date of Blood Sampling for Rabies Neutralizing Antibody Titer Test	One of the following: 1. Within 90 days to one year prior to importation. 2. Within 90 days to one year subsequent to the previous blood sampling that passed the rabies test, and within one year prior to importation 3. Before exiting Taiwan and within one year prior to reentering Taiwan	One of the following: 1. Within 180 days to one year prior to importation 2. Within 180 days prior to importation, and the date of blood sampling within 180 days to one year after the date of the previous blood sampled.	The animal quarantine authority of the exporting country sending a photocopy of a declaration of the test result directly to APHIA, or a reference or designated laboratory sending a photocopy of the report directly to APHIA. And comply with one of the following: 1. Within 180 days to one year prior to importation. 2. Within 180 days prior to importation, and the date of blood sampling within 180 days to one year after the date of the previous blood					
Doct auto-		Deatharten	sampled.					
Post-entry Quarantine	7 days		ived					
,	ion is within 20~120 day							
sampling date is relatively close to the date of entry (between 90 and 180								

days), post-entry quarantine for 7 days is still required after importation, which is same with the previous quarantine requirements. However, if the blood sampling date is way before the importation date (within 180 days to 1 year before importation), there are two methods to waive post-entry quarantine: (1) submit application at least 120 days before importation, (2) submit application at least 20 days before importation and provide the test report or Testing Results Declaration directly from the testing laboratory or the exporting country's animal quarantine authority to APHIA. The details can be found in the FAQ on "Under what circumstances can Post-entry Quarantine be Waived for a Dog/Cat importing from a Rabies-Infected Country (Zones)?" and "I would like to apply for waiving the dog/cat post-entry quarantine. How to submit the rabies neutralizing antibody test report?"

- Additionally, the new quarantine requirements stipulate that for dog/cat imported from rabies-free country, or generic dog/cat or service dog imported from rabies-infected country, if there is a need to change the approved date of entry or port of entry, the application for change should be made before the expiration of the validity period specified in the import quarantine permit and at least 10 days before the updated importation date. Applications can be submitted through the Online Application System for Dog/Cat Import Permit or by filling out an application form, along with the rabies vaccination certificate, rabies neutralizing antibody titer report (for importation from rabies-infected country), and the photocopy of original import permit. When changing the importation date, please pay attention to whether the updated date complies with the effective period of the rabies vaccination or the rabies neutralizing antibody titer report.
- Under the updated quarantine requirements, short-term importation for dog/cat entering into Taiwan for the purpose of: (1) international competitions, or (2) accompanying individuals participating in international events held in Taiwan, or (3) accompanying an individual invited by government agencies, project-oriented quarantine plan shall be submitted to APHIA 60 days before importation, instead of 30 days stipulated in the previous quarantine requirements. Upon arrival, the transportation cage must be sealed by APHIA, and the imported animals must be transported to the designated quarantine facility within the specified time according to the written instructions of APHIA.
- For search/rescue dogs assigned by a disaster prevention and protection agency for rescue tasks in response to international disasters and re-entering within 30 days, upon importation, a copy of the export quarantine document

issued by APHIA, a copy of the rabies vaccination certificate within 30 days to 1 year before importation, and a copy of the rabies neutralizing antibody titer report within 1 year before exiting Taiwan must be provided. Their importation is not subject to the restrictions in Articles 3 to Article 21 of the Quarantine Requirements. However, if the search/rescue dog re-enters after more than 30 days following export from Taiwan for rescue tasks, or if it was not exported for disaster rescue purposes, the regulations of Articles 3 to Article 21 of the quarantine requirements must be adhered to.

♦ Moreover, in addition to dog/cat deemed to require a special medical care for serious medical condition and allowed to undergo quarantine at a designated alternative facility as mentioned in the previous quarantine requirements, the updated quarantine requirements also allow duty dog to be exempted from being escorted by personnel. Furthermore, for brachycephalic breeds or dog/cat aged ten or above, if approved by the branch office of APHIA at the port of entry, your dog/cat can be exempted from the escort operation. In such cases, the transportation cage must be sealed by APHIA, and the dog/cat must be transported to the designated quarantine site within the specified time according to written instructions.

Question: What do I need to do first if I want to bring my dog/cat to Taiwan from abroad?

Answer:

First, you need to know whether the country (zone) from which your dog/cat originates is listed as a rabies-free country by Taiwan.

- If your dog/cat originates from Australia, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, Sweden, Iceland, Estonia, Japan, Norway (excluding the Svalbard Islands), Hawaii state and Territory of Guam in the United States, and Singapore, these countries are recognized by Taiwan as rabies-free country. In such cases, your dog/cat must be microchipped and vaccinated against rabies. For details on the validity period and the required duration of residence in the rabies-free country, please refer to the "Regulations on Importation of Dog/Cat from a Rabies-free country to Taiwan." in the FAQ.
- If your dog/cat originates from country (zone) other than those mentioned above, it is considered as rabies-infected country. Your dog/cat must be microchipped, vaccinated against rabies, and undergo blood testing for rabies neutralizing antibody titers. For details on the validity period, laboratory diagnostic requirements, and other specific regulations, please refer to the "Regulations on Importation of Dog/Cat from a Country (Zone)

Not Recognized as Being Free from Rabies to Taiwan." in the FAQ.

Please submit your application <u>at least 20 days before the importation</u>, or before leaving Taiwan. You can apply online through "Online Application System for Dog/Cat import permit" (https://pet-epermit.aphia.gov.tw/index.html). Please upload your identification card or passport (for foreigners), rabies vaccination certificate, and, for dog/cat importing from rabies-infected country, the rabies neutralizing antibody titer report must also be uploaded.

- For dog/cat imported from rabies-infected country, 7-day post-entry quarantine is requested. However, the 7-day post-entry quarantine may be waived under specific conditions. Please refer to the FAQ for "<u>Under what circumstances can Post-entry Quarantine be Waived for a Dog/Cat importing from a Rabies-Infected Country (Zones)?</u>" for further details.
- ❖ If your dog/cat has non-infectious serious medical condition and may not be suitable for quarantine at the designated facility, you can check the requirements for exempting from post-entry quarantine in the "Under what circumstances can Post-entry Quarantine be Waived for a Dog/Cat importing from a Rabies-Infected Country (Zones)?" section of the FAQ. If your dog/cat does not meet the requirements above for exemption, please submit an application at least 30 days before the importation through the "Online Application System for Dog/Cat import permit" (https://pet-epermit.aphia.gov.tw/index.html). For more details, please refer to the FAQ section on "My dog/cat has a non-infectious serious medical condition, does it need to be post-entry quarantined? How to apply?"
- ❖ If your dog/cat is intended to (1) participate in international competitions hosted by Taiwan, or (2) accompanying an individual participating in international events held in Taiwan, or (3) accompanying an individual invited by government agencies, and you are applying for short-term importation, please submit your application at least 60 days before the import. Additionally, you should provide the project-oriented quarantine plan along with your application.
- ❖ Taiwan has announced that the American Pit Bull Terrier, American Pit Bull and the American Staffordshire Terrier are prohibited breeds for breeding or importation. For details, please refer to the Ministry of Agriculture website (https://law.moa.gov.tw/glrsnewsout/LawContent.aspx?id=GL000084).
- ❖ If you intend to import leopard cat (Bengal cat), please refer to the FAQ for "Anything special considerations for import of leopard cat (Bengal cat)?" for details.

Question: Regulations on Importation of Dog/Cat from a Rabies-free country to Taiwan.

Answer:

- Taiwan recognized the following countries/regions as rabies-free country:
 Australia, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, Sweden, Iceland, Estonia,
 Japan, Norway (excluding the Svalbard Islands), Hawaii state and Territory of Guam in the United States, and Singapore.
- 2. To import dog/cat from the rabies-free country, one of the following requirements must be met:
 - (1) Under 180 days of age and has been kept in a rabies-free country continuously since birth;
 - (2) Over 180 days of age and has been kept in a rabies-free country continuously for at least 180 days prior to entering into Taiwan; or
 - (3) The dog/cat has been kept continuously in a rabies-free country during the period of exiting and prior to re-entry into Taiwan.
 - Otherwise, the dog/cat have to follow requirements for importation from rabies-infected country.
- 3. For applications, please submit at least 20 days before the importation or before leaving Taiwan. Apply at the "Online Application System for Dog/Cat import permit" (https://pet-epermit.aphia.gov.tw/index.html) and upload your identification card or passport (for foreigners) and rabies vaccination certificate. If the dog/cat exporting to a rabies-free country but scheduled for re-entry with 180 days, export quarantine document issued by APHIA should be uploaded.
- 4. Please ensure to completes the following measures:
 - (1) Implant a microchip. (Make sure that the microchip can be scanned and is functional.)
 - (2) Administer rabies vaccination within the period of 1 year to 30 days before import. Attach the certificate of rabies vaccination.
 - a. Vaccination must be done when the dog/cat is at least 90 days old.
 - b. The rabies vaccine must be an inactivated vaccine or approved for use in Taiwan (Please access APHIA website for details: https://www.aphia.gov.tw/ws.php?id=5051).
 - c. The certificate, in Chinese or English, should indicate the species, gender, age, microchip number, date of rabies vaccination, and vaccine brand or type. It could be issued by an official or practicing veterinarian.
- 5. If the above conditions are met and the original veterinary certificate from the

- exporting country is submitted upon arrival according to the quarantine requirements, post-entry quarantine is not necessary.
- * If you transit through a rabies-infected country during transportation (e.g., departing from Japan but transiting through South Korea before arriving in Taiwan; departing from the UK but transiting through the Netherlands before arriving in Taiwan). A document issued by the animal quarantine authority or customs authority of the transshipping country (zone), or by the airline or shipping company attesting that the dog/cat did not leave the airport or harbor, and had no contact with other animals susceptible to rabies. Alternatively, if the transportation cage is sealed with the seal number stated on the export veterinary certificate by the animal quarantine authority of the exporting country, post-entry quarantine can be waived. Failure to comply with these requirements will result in imposing 7-day post-entry quarantine.

Question: What should be done if dog/cat imported from a Rabies-free country are transported through Rabies-Infected Countries (Zones)?

Answer:

If you transit through a rabies-infected country during transportation (e.g., departing from Japan but transiting through South Korea before arriving in Taiwan; departing from the UK but transiting through the Netherlands before arriving in Taiwan). A document issued by the animal quarantine authority or customs authority of the transshipping country (zone), or by the airline or shipping company attesting that the dog/cat did not leave the airport or harbor, and had no contact with other animals susceptible to rabies. Alternatively, if the transportation cage is sealed with the seal number stated on the export veterinary certificate by the animal quarantine authority of the exporting country, post-entry quarantine can be waived. Failure to comply with these requirements will result in imposing 7-day post-entry quarantine.

Question: Regulations on Importation of Dog/Cat from a Rabies-infected country.

Answer:

- 1. Please submit your application at least 20 days before the importation or before leaving Taiwan. For online applications, please upload the following documents:
 - (1) Identification card or passport (for foreigners).
 - (2) Rabies vaccination certificate and
 - (3) Rabies neutralizing antibody titer report.

- (4) For importing from China, please upload the permit from the International Trade Administration of the Ministry of Economic Affairs (only residents are allowed). For returning to Taiwan, upload the export quarantine documents issued by Taiwan.
- (5) If blood testing for rabies neutralizing antibody titer was sampled before exporting from Taiwan with passing result, and the re-entry occurs within 1 year from the blood sampling date, please upload the export quarantine documents issued by Taiwan, to apply for exemption for post-entry quarantine.
- 2. Please ensure the following measures are completed:
 - (1) Implant a microchip. (Ensure the microchip can be scanned and is functional.)
 - (2) Rabies vaccination within the period of 1 year to 30 days before import. Attach the certificate of rabies vaccination.
 - a. Vaccination must be done when the dog/cat is at least 90 days old.
 - b. The rabies vaccine must be an inactivated vaccine or approved for use in Taiwan (to APHIA website for details: https://www.aphia.gov.tw/ws.php?id=5051).
 - c. The certificate, in Chinese or English, should indicate the species, gender, age, microchip number, date of rabies vaccination, and vaccine brand or type. It should be issued by an official or practicing veterinarian.
 - (3) Conduct blood testing for rabies neutralizing antibody titer during one of the following periods, with satisfactory results:
 - a. Within 90 days to one year prior to importation
 - b. Within 90 days to one year subsequent to the previous blood sampling that passed the rabies test, and within one year prior to importation.
- 3. If the conditions are met, submit the veterinary certificate from the exporting country, and the dog/cat shall undergo a 7-day post-entry quarantine at the designated facility. (If not complying with the aforementioned regulations may result in the shipment being returned, extended quarantine, and the need for vaccine boosting or blood testing during the quarantine period.)
- ※For dog/cat imported from rabies-infected country, 7-day post-entry quarantine is requested. However, the 7-day post-entry quarantine may be waived under specific conditions. Please refer to the FAQ for "<u>Under what circumstances can Post-entry Quarantine be Waived for a Dog/Cat importing from a Rabies-Infected Country (Zones)?</u>" for further details.

**If your dog/cat has non-infectious serious medical condition and may not be suitable for quarantine at the designated facility, you can check the requirements for exempting from post-entry quarantine in the "Under what circumstances can Post-entry Quarantine be Waived for a Dog/Cat importing from a Rabies-Infected Country (Zones)?" section of the FAQ. If your dog/cat does not meet the requirements above for exemption, please submit an application at least 30 days before the importation through the "Online Application System for Dog/Cat import permit" (https://pet-epermit.aphia.gov.tw/index.html). For more details, please refer to the FAQ section on "My dog/cat has a non-infectious serious medical condition, does it need to be post-entry quarantined? How to apply? ".

Question: Under what circumstances can Post-entry Quarantine be Waived for a Dog/Cat importing from a Rabies-Infected Country (Zones)?

Answer:

1. The 7-day post-entry quarantine may be waived for dog/cat meets one of the following conditions:

Condition 1:

Condition 2:

If blood sample has been taken and tested and with a passing result before being exporting from Taiwan, and the re-entry occurs within 1 year from the blood sampling date. (Please submit the import application at least 20 days prior to importation or before leaving Taiwan. Upload the export quarantine document issued by APHIA when applying for import permit)

If you submit the import application at least 120 days before import, and the blood test is sampled and passed within the period of 180 days to 1 year before import. Alternatively, if the blood test is sampled and passed within the last 180 days prior to importation, and the blood sampling date is within 180 days to 1 year from the previous passed test.

Condition 3:

If you submit the import application <u>at least 20 days before import</u>, and the blood test is sampled and passed within the period of 180 days to 1 year before importation. Alternatively, if the blood test is sampled and passed within the last 180 days, and the blood sampling date is within 180 days to 1 year from the previous test. The test report shall be submitted or endorsed by one of the following methods:

a. A copy of the test declaration directly provided by the exporting country's animal quarantine authority to APHIA (E-mail address:

rabiesreport@aphia.gov.tw); or

- b. A copy of the test report directly provided by the testing laboratory to APHIA (E-mail address: rabiesreport@aphia.gov.tw).
- ※ For the declaration of test reports or direct reporting by laboratories, please refer to the FAQ section on "I would like to apply for waiving the dog/cat post-entry quarantine. How to submit the rabies neutralizing antibody test report?"
- 2. For all the above conditions, you must still complete the following requirements:
 - (1) Implant a microchip. (Ensure the microchip can be scanned and is functional.)
 - (2) Administer rabies vaccination within the period of 1 year to 30 days before importation.
 - a. Vaccination must be done when the dog/cat is at least 90 days old.
 - b. The rabies vaccine must be an inactivated vaccine or approved for use in Taiwan (to APHIA website for details: https://www.aphia.gov.tw/ws.php?id=5051).

Question: If my dog/cat is returning to Taiwan from another country, is it possible that post-entry quarantine be waived?

Answer:

- If your dog/cat was exported from Taiwan to a rabies-free country and then re-entering to Taiwan from that rabies-free country, please refer to the "Regulations for Importation of Dog/Cat from a Rabies-free country to Taiwan." section. Generally, for imports from rabies-free country that comply with relevant regulations, post-entry quarantine is not required. Note: If your pet has traveled to other rabies-infected countries after being exported from Taiwan to a rabies-free country, it may not qualify for exempting post-entry quarantine.
- If your dog/cat is exported from Taiwan and then imported from a rabies-infected country, and it has **undergone a blood test in Taiwan** with satisfactory results **with blood sampled within 1 year before re-entry,** and other requirements (microchip, rabies vaccine) are met, there is no need for post-entry quarantine. You can refer to the information in the FAQ section, "Under what circumstances can Post-entry Quarantine be Waived for a Dog/Cat importing from a Rabies-Infected Country (Zones)?"

Question: My dog/cat has a non-infectious serious medical condition, does it

need to be post-entry quarantined? How to apply?

Answer:

If your dog/cat has a non-infectious serious medical condition (such as terminal cancer, paralysis, severe cardiac or pulmonary disease, or renal failure, ...etc.), and may not be suitable for quarantine in a designated quarantine facility, you can refer to the FAQ section first "Under what circumstances can **Post-entry Quarantine be Waived** for a Dog/Cat importing from a Rabies-Infected Country (Zones)?"

If your dog/cat does not qualify for exempting from post-entry quarantine, please submit an application at least 30 days before importation. For online applications, please visit the "Online Application System for Dog/Cat import permit" (https://pet-epermit.aphia.gov.tw/index.html) and upload your identification card or passport (for foreigners), rabies vaccine certificate, and rabies neutralizing antibody titer report. Choose the option "Quarantine method after importation" as "Quarantine in other designated facilities for seriously ill dogs or cats" during the online application.

- 1. Please ensure the following measures are completed:
 - (1) Implant a microchip. (Ensure the microchip can be scanned and is functional.)
 - (2) Rabies vaccination within 30 days to 1 year before entry and provide the rabies vaccine certificate.
 - a. At the time of vaccination, the dog/cat must be at least 90 days old.
 - b. The rabies vaccine must be an inactivated vaccine or a vaccine approved for use in Taiwan. (to APHIA website for details: https://www.aphia.gov.tw/ws.php?id=5051)
 - c. The veterinary certificate, issued by an official or practicing veterinarian, should be in Chinese or English and include details such as species, gender, age, microchip number, vaccination date, and vaccine brand or type.
 - (3) Blood testing for rabies antibody titer during one of the following periods:
 - a. Within 90 days to one year prior to importation
 - b. Within 90 days to one year subsequent to the previous blood sampling that passed the rabies test, and within one year prior to importation.
 - c. Before exiting Taiwan and within 1 year prior to re-entering.
- 2. In addition to the aforementioned documents, please provide the dog/cat medical chart, diagnosis results ...etc., via email (please contact the

inspection station of the port of entry for the e-mail address). The medical chart must be issued by an official or practicing veterinarian and state the microchip number, diagnosis results, case details, relevant test reports... etc. The veterinarian's diagnosis results should at least include the animal's:

- (1) Current health condition,
- (2) Name of the disease suffered, medical history,
- (3) Veterinarian's prescription or treatment plan (e.g., medications and dosage frequency),
- (4) Reasons why the dog/cat cannot be quarantined in a designated facility but must be quarantined at home.
- 3. Also, please provide the expected home quarantine address, ensuring that the quarantine area is a separate space without contact with other rabies-susceptible animals.
- 4. Please be reminded that all applications for quarantine at home due to non-infectious serious medical condition must be submitted for expert assessment. The focus of the expert assessment is on the medical history information. If the relevant information does not pass the assessment, your dog/cat must still undergo a 7-day post-entry quarantine at a designated quarantine facility.

Note:

For emotional disorders (e.g., separation anxiety) of dog/cat: Home quarantine will only be authorized if there is sufficient evidence in the medical history demonstrating that the disorder has caused substantial physical harm.

Question: What kinds of rabies vaccinations can be used for dog/cat imported into Taiwan? What are the requirements on the date of vaccination?

Answer:

The rabies vaccine administered must be an inactivated (killed virus/bacteria/recombinant protein/subunit/non-replicating vector) vaccine or a rabies vaccine approved for use in Taiwan. (to APHIA website for details: https://www.aphia.gov.tw/ws.php?id=5051)

The rabies vaccine should be administered within 1 year to 30 days before importation, and the dog/cat must be at least 90 days old at the time of administration.

Question: Although the time interval between administering the rabies vaccine and the entry into Taiwan exceeds one year, the vaccine administered has a three-year validity period. I am concerned about its potential

impact on animal health. Would the dog/cat still be eligible for entry into Taiwan one year after the date the rabies vaccine was administered?

Answer:

According to veterinary expertise, administering a multi-year rabies vaccine within its effective period and subsequently administering a booster vaccine before the expiration date of the previous vaccination, in principle, do not have a negative impact on the health of the animal. According to Taiwan's rabies prevention policy, it is mandatory for the dogs and cats to be vaccinated against rabies annually. Therefore, regardless of the number of years of effectiveness of the rabies inactivated vaccine administered, for dog/cat imported into our country, the most recent vaccination date must be within the period of 30 days to 1 year prior to entry.

Question: My dog/cat's rabies vaccination is about to expire, would there be any problems with importing?

Answer:

- 1.Regarding the regulations on the effectiveness period of rabies vaccination, it must comply with the following rules:
- (1) The rabies vaccine should be administered within 1 year to 30 days before importation.
- (2) At the time of vaccination, the animal must be at least 90 days old.
- (3) The rabies vaccine must be an inactivated vaccine or a vaccine approved for use in Taiwan. (to APHIA website for details: https://www.aphia.gov.tw/ws.php?id=5051)
- 2. Here are examples for your reference under different scenarios:

If the expected import date is October 31, 2023,

Situation 1: Rabies vaccine administered on October 30, 2022:

The expected entry date is not within the vaccine's effective period (valid from November 29, 2022, to October 30, 2023). Please boost rabies vaccine before October 1, 2023 (if boosted on October 1, 2023, it will be valid from October 31, 2023, to October 1, 2024).

Situation 2: Rabies vaccine administered on November 2, 2022:

The expected entry date (October 31, 2023) is still within the vaccine's effective period (valid from December 2, 2022, to November 2, 2023). However, if your dog/cat is entering from a rabies-infected country and needs a 7-day post-entry quarantine, the vaccine will expire during the post-entry quarantine period.

Therefore, the dog/cat needs to receive a rabies vaccine booster during the quarantine period. (The rabies vaccination fee will be charged and shall be borne by the owner).

Question: Is there any designated/reference laboratories for rabies-neutralizing antibody titration tests?

Answer:

Blood could be sampled by practicing veterinarian, but the rabies-neutralizing antibody titration test must be done by a reference/designated laboratory. The laboratory shall be a World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) rabies reference laboratory (hereinafter reference laboratory) or laboratories designated by APHIA. For more information, please refer to the website of APHIA (https://www.aphia.gov.tw/ws.php?id=13032).

**The WOAH has different reference laboratories for various diseases. Please make sure that the reference laboratory to which you submit samples is the 'Rabies' reference laboratory. Reports of rabies neutralizing antibody titers from reference laboratories for other disease categories will not be accepted.

Question: I would like to apply for waiving the dog/cat post-entry quarantine.

How to submit the rabies neutralizing antibody test report?

Answer:

If you submit an import application at least 20 days prior to the entry date and provide a blood test report with a blood sampling date within 180 days to 1 year before entry, the certification of the test report must meet one of the following conditions:

Condition 1: The copy of the test report declaration (Rabies neutralizing antibody titer test declaration - RNATTD) is directly provided by **the animal quarantine authority of the exporting country** to the APHIA (Email address: rabiesreport@aphia.gov.tw). Please ensure that the exporting country's animal quarantine authority completes the RNATTD and submits it via email.

Condition 2: **The testing laboratory** directly provides the test report to the APHIA (Email address: rabiesreport@aphia.gov.tw), or the report is accessible directly on the laboratory's website.

Here are the verify methods and detailed explanations:

methods explanations Condition

		1	2
Website	The report is accessible directly on the laboratory's	X	О
disclosure	website. The laboratories that currently allow direct		
	inquiry of test results are:(not limit to these laboratories) • Kansas lab - Kansas State Veterinary Diagnostic		
	Laboratory in United Stated of America.		
	VGNKI - The All Russian State Centre for		
	Quality and Standardisation of Veterinary Drugs		
	and Feed in Russia.		
	CSIRO -Livestock Industries, Australian Animal		
	Health Laboratory in Australia.		
	IZSV-Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale delle		
	Venezie in Italy		
	NVRI - National Veterinary Research Institute		
	in Poland.		
	KVI - Rabies Laboratory Kimron Veterinary		
	Institute in Israel.		
Directly	1. E-mail address: rabiesreport@aphia.gov.tw	Ο	О
E-mail to	2. The sender's account should be one of the		
APHIA	APHIA following: 2-1 Email address of the exporting country's		
	animal quarantine authority		
	2-2 Email address of the laboratory listed as		
	designated laboratory by APHIA.		
	2-3 Email address of the WOAH rabies reference		
	laboratory published on the WOAH website.		
	3. The subject should be "Microchip Number,"		
	with one animal per email.		
	4. The total file size for each email should be less		
	than 10MB.		

Additional Explanation:

- 1. The E-mail address: rabiesreport@aphia.gov.tw only accepts test report directly submitted by the laboratory or rabies neutralizing antibody titer test declaration (RNATTD) sent by the animal quarantine authority of the exporting country. And other documents will not be processed. This inbox will not respond to any questions.
- 2. When sending by email, if the sender do not receive an automatic reply

from the system, it indicates that the E-mail submission was not successful.

- 3. It is recommended that the applicant retrieve and retain the sending records and time, providing the information when applying for the import quarantine permit.
- 4. If the email submission is unsuccessful multiple times, it may be due to cybersecurity concerns. Please contact APHIA's inspection station at the port of entry for alternative email inboxes.

Question: If I have problems with applying for quarantine import permit on website, to whom should I contact?

Answer:

If there are system operation problems, please contact with the system company:

GREATSOFT CO,.LTD

Service time: 9AM to 5PM, Monday to Friday

Contact Person: Ms. Chen

E-mail: mimi@great-wall.com.tw

Phone: 02-29326631(+886-2-29326631)

For problems related to the regulations of import/export, the application progress or other relevant issues, please contact the inspection station at the port of entry indicated in your application.

Taoyuan International Airport (TPE):

Taoyuan Branch of APHIA

E-mail: ty04@tyaphia.gov.tw

Phone: 03-3982663(+886-3-3982663) Fax: 03-3982310(+886-3-3982310)

Taipei Songshan airport (TSA):

Taipei Songshan Airport Inspection Station, Keelung Branch of APHIA

E-mail: arrival@klaphia.gov.tw

Phone: 02-87701535(+886-2-87701535) Fax: 02-25462802(+886-2-25462802)

Kaohsiung International Airport (KHH):

Kaohsiung Airport Inspection Station, Kaohsiung Branch of APHIA

E-mail: kh0701@khaphia.gov.tw

Phone: 07-9720211 \cdot 07-9720200(+886-7-9720211 \cdot +886-7-9720200)

Fax: 07-8068427 \cdot 07-9720210(+886-7-8068427 \cdot +886-7-9720210)

Taichung International Airport (RMQ):

Taichung Airport Inspection Station, Taichung Branch of APHIA

E-Mail: tcairport@tcaphia.gov.tw

Phone: 04-26155003(+886-4-26155003) Fax: 04-26151796(+886-4-26151796)

Taipei Port

Taipei Inspection Station, Keelung Branch of APHIA

E-mail: kltaipei@klaphia.gov.tw

Phone: 02-26195072(+886-2-26195072) Fax: 02-26195079(+886-2-26195079)

Question: What should I need to do after I got a quarantine import permit if my dog/cat needs to be post-entry quarantined, do I need to make an appointment for a space at quarantine facility?

Answer:

If you have received the import quarantine permit, it means that the quarantine space has been reserved for your dog/cat at the designated quarantine facility. There is no need to submit any further applications to the quarantine facility.

Before departure, please visit the animal quarantine authority of the exporting country's government to apply for the "Veterinary Certificate for Dog/Cat". As the processing time varies for each country, it is essential to inquire with animal quarantine authority of the exporting country (zone) and apply in advance to ensure timely receipt of the certificate before departure.

Upon arrival at the designated port of entry, please submit the **original**Veterinary Certificate for Dog/Cat, a copy of the quarantine import permit.

In addition, for cargo shipments, it is necessary to submit the bill of lading or airway bill. Travelers should provide the customs declaration. Apply for quarantine inspection at the animal and plant quarantine counter in the port of entry.

Currently, no fee is required for applying the import quarantine permit. Upon quarantine inspection, on-site payments will be required, including computer processing fees (NTD 100), transport fees (only applicable for postentry quarantine at the designated quarantine facility, with price varying based on location and date of transportation, please refer to the APHIA website: https://www.aphia.gov.tw/ws.php?id=22274), on-site inspection fees, and overtime fees (depending on the situation, usually for home quarantine or cargo shipments). Due to all relevant fees must be paid in cash in New Taiwan Dollars, please prepare sufficient cash in advance.

If your dog/cat requires post-entry quarantine at the designated quarantine facility, the cost for quarantine will vary depending on the request of each designated quarantine facility. The quarantine facility will contact you, and please settle the fees before the end of the quarantine period.

Question: What quarantine facilities are available if my dog/cat need to be postentry quarantined?

Answer:

Please refer to the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Agency website at https://www.aphia.gov.tw/ws.php?id=14354.

Question: How to check the dates for the available space at a post-entry quarantine facility?

Answer:

To check the availability of quarantine space, you can visit the "Online Application System for Dog/Cat import permit" (https://pet-epermit.aphia.gov.tw/index.html) and navigate to the Quarantines/ There is cage query section. Select the year, month, and quarantine facility to obtain the current status of cage reservations. Please note that this information is subject to change at any time due to new bookings or cancellations. It is recommended to rely on the real-time status provided by the designated quarantine facility at the time of inquiry.

Question: If I would like to visit my dog/cat or to provide items to them, what is the contact information of the quarantine facility?

Answer:

For information about various quarantine facilities, please refer to the official website of APHIA (https://www.aphia.gov.tw/ws.php?id=14354).

Question: How do I change the port of entry or the date of importation if I have already received the quarantine import permit?

Answer:

If you need to change the port of entry or modify the import date, <u>please</u> apply for the change before the expiration of the validity period stated in the import quarantine permit and at least 10 days before the modified import date. Each application <u>can only be modified once</u>. Please provide the rabies vaccination certificate, rabies neutralizing antibody titer test report (for those entering from rabies-infected country), and the original application for import

quarantine permit when applying for changes.

Please access to the "Online Application System for Dog/Cat import permit" (https://pet-epermit.aphia.gov.tw/index.html) / "Follow up your application" section. Enter your applicant ID, apply No., and specify the items you intend to change at the bottom of the system. Upload the relevant documents.

If you have already modified your application once and need to make further changes, please submit a new application.

- **Please note that the approved import (arrival) date depends on factors such as your application date, rabies vaccination date, blood sampling date of rabies neutralizing antibody titer test, availability of the quarantine space, etc. For example, if your original plan was to enter on May 1, 2024, and the documents submitted has been reviewed, the approved import (arrival) date would be from May 1 to May 3, 2024. Therefore, any import within that period complies with regulations. If you wish to change it to May 2, 2024, it is still within the approved period, and you don't need to apply for a change. The approved import period is stated in the quarantine import permit and includes other important reminders. Please thoroughly read the import quarantine permit upon receipt.
- *While it is not mandatory to reapply for a change during the approved period, it is advisable to inform the port of entry in advance to facilitate the preparation process and reduce your on-site waiting time.

Question: Can I bring pet food or snacks for dog/cat?

Answer:

Pet food imported from abroad is subject to quarantine in Taiwan. Taiwan has established Quarantine Requirements for the Importation of Dog and Cat Food (https://www.aphia.gov.tw/ws.php?id=9624). Products intended for consumption or chewing by dog/cat that contain cloven-hoofed animals (such as pigs, cows, sheep, etc.) or avian (such as chickens, ducks, geese, etc.) ingredients are subject to quarantine. The manufacturing factory must be registered in the exporting country for the production of cat and dog food, and it should be reviewed and approved by APHIA. Additionally, it should be accompanied by the original veterinary certificate issued by the animal quarantine authority of the exporting country for quarantine declaration.

There are some exceptions that can be confirmed by quarantine personnel as exempted from quarantine, such as **products containing only seafood** ingredients and canned food without beef ingredients that have undergone high-temperature sterilization process.

If you intend to bring pet food into Taiwan, please carry the product in its complete packaging without opening or repackaging. Double-check the ingredients, and quarantine personnel will determine on-site whether it needs to be declared and is allowed into Taiwan.

Bringing pet food subject to quarantine and fail to declare is subject to penalties! The maximum fine is up to 1 million New Taiwan Dollars. If you are unsure whether the ingredients can be brought in, please inquire in advance or voluntarily declare!

Question: What fees do I need to pay to apply for quarantine at the airport?

Answer:

After declaring quarantine at the Animal and Plant Quarantine counter, a computer processing fee of 100 New Taiwan Dollars must be paid in cash. If post-entry quarantine is required, additional fees, such as the transport fee to the quarantine facility (only applicable for post-entry quarantine at designated quarantine facility, with price varying based on location and date of transportation, please refer to APHIA website

https://www.aphia.gov.tw/ws.php?id=22274), on-site inspection fees, and overtime fees (depending on the situation, usually required for home quarantine or cargo shipment), all related fees must be paid in cash in New Taiwan Dollars. Please prepare enough cash in advance.

For "customs duties," please contact the Customs Administration of the Ministry of Finance (https://web.customs.gov.tw/); for cargo, "warehousing management fees" should be inquired with the respective airline (warehousing) companies.

Question: How much does it cost for the post-entry quarantine at the designated quarantine facility for a dog/cat?

Answer:

If your dog/cat requires post-entry quarantine at the designated quarantine facility, the fees for the quarantine period vary depending on the chosen quarantine facility. The quarantine facility will contact you, and please settle the payment before the end of the quarantine period.

For information of the quarantine facilities, please refer to the following website:

https://www.aphia.gov.tw/ws.php?id=14354

Question: Are there any prohibited breeds of dog/cat for importing to Taiwan?

Answer:

According to the announcement by the Ministry of Agriculture in Taiwan, the breeds of American Pit Bull Terrier, American Pit Bull, and American Staffordshire Terrier are prohibited from being kept or imported.

For details, please refer to the Ministry of Agriculture website (https://law.moa.gov.tw/glrsnewsout/LawContent.aspx?id=GL000084).

Question: Are there any specific considerations for importing a leopard cat (Bengal cat)?

Answer:

According to the Wildlife Conservation Act, the Bengal Cat, also known as the Leopard Cat, if recognized as a hybrid of the 5th generation or above by the Forestry and Nature Conservation Agency, Ministry of Agriculture, FNCA, its importation must comply with "Quarantine Requirements for the Importation of Dogs and Cats". Those of the 5th generation hybrid (including the 5th generation, F5) and above are considered domestic cat. When applying for a import quarantine permit on the "Online Application System for Dog/Cat import permit" (https://pet-epermit.aphia.gov.tw/index.html), please upload official and legally registered pedigree certificates issued by recognized organizations or breeding establishments.

Hybrids of the 5th generation (including the 5th generation, F5) and above are not subject to the regulations of the Wildlife Conservation Act, and their import and export do not require approval from the FNCA. Hybrids of the 4th generation and below should obtain prior approval from the FNCA before import and export, and such import and export are limited to academic research institutions, universities, public or government-registered private zoos for educational and academic research purposes.