



Advice for Private Veterinary Practitioners on Rabies Vaccine Immunity Periods for Completing Pet Passports

8th June 2022

The below information is based on data sheets and communication with the relevant companies regarding five rabies vaccines commonly available in Ireland:

Rabisin: Immunity has been demonstrated 1 month after primary vaccination, and has been shown to persist up to the first booster dose (1 year after primary vaccination). Therefore a date one month from the date of vaccination should be entered into the pet passport for Date vaccine is valid for travel from.

Nobivac Rabies: Protective levels of circulating antibody are seen in all species within 30 days of vaccination. Duration of immunity studies indicate a minimum duration of protection in dogs and cats of 3 years. This suggests immunity in less than 30 days but does not give an exact time, therefore 21 days may be entered into the pet passport for Date vaccine is valid for travel from.

Versiguard Rabies: Onset of immunity: 14-21 days after primary vaccination. Duration of immunity: Dogs: At least three years following the primary vaccination course. 14 days is not allowed under the Pet Travel Regulation, therefore 21 days must be entered into the pet passport for Date vaccine is valid for travel from.

Versican Plus DHPPi/L4R and Versican Plus Pi/L4R: Onset of immunity is given as two weeks after vaccination against rabies after the age of 12 weeks (vaccines given earlier are invalid for travel). Two weeks is not allowed under the Pet Travel Regulation, therefore 21 days must be entered into the pet passport for Date vaccine is valid for travel from. Re-vaccination is advised as a single dose every 3 years.