



Notice to Private Veterinary Practitioners regarding the entry of Ukrainian Pets into Ireland

Notice UA-06

8th April 2022

The Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine recognise that companion animals play a hugely important role in people's lives, supporting their well-being at times of need.

Recognising the exceptional circumstance created by the invasion of Ukraine, temporary arrangements have been put in place to allow people to travel from Ukraine to Ireland with their pets, even if the pets are not in compliance with EU Travel Regulations.

Pets and their documents are inspected on arrival into Ireland. Some pets may be non-compliant with EU Regulations for a variety of reasons. In these cases, the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine veterinary services are taking steps to bring these animals into compliance with the legislative travel requirements. These include identifying animals and providing a rabies vaccination and tapeworm treatment, as required, to animals at arrival.

These pets are then placed in strict home quarantine and owners receive instructions from the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine on what they need to do to ensure compliance.

Scenarios a practitioner may encounter:

1. Pet not already identified at point of entry, or pet identified at point of entry but not treated

The majority of pets will be treated on arrival, either on first entry into the EU or at an Irish port or airport. However in a small number of cases, a veterinary practitioner may be presented with an animal from Ukraine that was not treated at the point of entry. In those cases, the veterinarian should try to establish the animal's vaccination status and what treatment it may have received. Following that assessment, the veterinarian should microchip the animal and administer a rabies vaccine and tapeworm treatment, as required, to start the journey towards travel compliance.



If you encounter an animal that has not been treated at the point of entry, please ensure that you contact UkrainePets@agriculture.gov.ie with the details of the animal

2. Request for post-vaccination blood test

A more likely scenario is that the veterinarian will be asked to take a blood sample to detect rabies antibodies post-vaccination. The Department is putting a system in place to cover the costs of the rabies serology testing and more information will be provided once this system is fully established. If you do provide any services to these pets to support compliance with EU requirements, please provide a record to the owner with the treatment provided, noting that the microchip number must be included. This record should also be sent to the Department by emailing UkrainePets@agriculture.gov.ie who will update the individual animal's record.

Financial support

The Department will put in place arrangements to support veterinary practitioners who provide services to these individuals. Where practitioners are asked to provide treatment to bring a Ukrainian animal into compliance with the travel requirements, the Department will pay the following subsidy, excluding VAT, to support this work.

Task	Subsidy	Comment
Microchip, Rabies vaccination and tapeworm treatment	€90	
Rabies vaccination and tapeworm treatment	€65	
Rabies vaccination	€55	
Tapeworm treatment	Cost of tablet	DAFM reimburses the cost of the tablet
Rabies serology blood test, and post to DAFM	€20	DAFM covers serology cost
Complete and issue passport	€25	DAFM supplies passport

It is important to note that EU passports can only be issued to animals that are fully compliant with import regulations, therefore EU pet passports must **NOT** be issued until quarantine and post-vaccination serology, including quarantining for the 3 month wait period after the successful rabies serological test, have been completed and DAFM



has instructed that an EU pet passport may be issued. For more information, please see [gov.ie - Pet Travel \(www.gov.ie\)](http://www.gov.ie)

The Department cannot support other veterinary treatments for these animals. Should a Ukrainian origin animal require veterinary treatment for any other reason, that is a matter between the owner and the attending veterinarian.

If you are asked to treat animals that are unwell, if a home visit is not possible, please take steps to ensure that while the pet is at your premises, there is no chance of escape or mixing with other animals.

Please contact UkrainePets@agriculture.gov.ie with any questions in the first instance.

You can call +353 (0) 1 607 2827 if you have any urgent questions during office hours.

Frequently Asked Questions:

1. What address should I register to the microchip to?

Register the address of the pet owner. If the owner is staying in a hotel or other temporary accommodation, input this address.

2. The cat/dog is rabies vaccinated but not microchipped. Do I need to vaccinate them again?

Yes. If the cat/dog has no microchip, you must microchip the animal and administer a rabies vaccine.

3. When can I carry out the rabies blood test?

The blood test must be carried out at least 30 days after the rabies vaccine is administered. The day the vaccine is administered is counted as day zero. The blood test is not valid if the 30-day period has not elapsed.