



## **To whom it may concern: rabies antibody test**

The Swiss Rabies Centre is officially approved for titration of rabies antibodies of dogs and cats in the context of international pet travel.

### **Samples and sample submission**

- 0.5-2 ml **serum** derived from 2-10 ml **whole blood** drawn **without anticoagulants**
- Whole blood (**without anticoagulants**) is not suited for long distance transports
- Label tubes clearly and pack in a second tube (metal or plastic) to **prevent breaking** during transport
- **Cooling** of the samples for (national and international transport) is **not** necessary
- Rabies antibody testing is usually performed **once a week** (at present on Mondays)

### **Samples from abroad**

- Submission by an **international express** mail service to our **complete street address below**.  
Declaration as **“Diagnostic Specimen (dog or cat serum), Not Restricted, Packed In Compliance With IATA Packing Instruction 650“**
- Provide the carrier with a **“Pro Forma Invoice“** (enclosed) signed by the veterinarian, with the following **content**:
  - Number of samples
  - Volume/Weight
  - Carrier, e.g. “DHL“
  - Full description of contents, e.g. “Diagnostic specimen etc.“
  - Pro forma value **“10.- SFr.“**
  - Reason for export, e.g.. “For diagnostic purposes“
  - Declaration of truth
  - A global **“Import Certificate“** for pet sera for the shipping company is enclosed
- **Private transport in baggage** along with the same documentation as above is also possible

### **Export / Import: Details in Request Form (attached)**

- Complete **data** on the animal including the **chip-Nr. with the date of implantation**
- The vaccination history must be completely filled in and signed

### **Reporting and billing**

- The form with the **result** is sent by **post** usually **1-2 weeks** from arrival of the samples
- The costs of a rabies antibody test (RFFIT) are 74.00 SFr. or 55.00 (>1 sample) at present
- For reporting and billing, please clearly indicate the complete applicant address (**preferably Swiss, else prepayment will be requested**)
- Payments should be made upon receipt of the bill (always separate post)

Encl. mentioned. Download address: [http://www.ivi.unibe.ch/services/diagnostics/swiss\\_rabies\\_center](http://www.ivi.unibe.ch/services/diagnostics/swiss_rabies_center)