



DGV  
Direcção Geral  
de Veterinária  
Ministério da Agricultura,  
Desenvolvimento Rural e das Pescas



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**Notes:**

- 1) Accompanying their owners or a natural person responsible for such animals on behalf of the owner, and not intended to be sold or transferred to another owner.
- 2) According to the Decision 2005/91/EC, the anti-rabies vaccination shall be considered as valid 21 days after completion of primary vaccination or immediately after revaccination, as long as the protocols and the validities periods required by the manufacturer shall be respected.
- 3) Valid for 5 or less animals. If there are more than 5 pets, Direcção Geral de Veterinária should be contacted.
- 4) The health certificate must be accompanied by original or certified copies of documentation related to vaccination and, if it is the case, serological test.
- 5) The health certificate and the list of approved laboratories may be obtained on the EU Commission website:  
[«http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/liveanimals/pets/index\\_en.htm»](http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/liveanimals/pets/index_en.htm)
- 6) The veterinary authorities of the countries mentioned on Section 2 of PART B of ANNEX II of Regulation (EC) No 998/2003, may opt for the use of a passport in accordance with the model established by Decision 2003/803/EC.

**New rules for non-commercial'  
movement of pet dogs and cats coming  
from European Union Member States,  
coming from non European Union  
countries or reintroduced after a stay  
abroad in non European Union  
countries**

**(Application of Regulation (EC) No 998/2003)**

**ATTENTION:**

This information does not dispense consultation of Regulation (EC) No 998/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council, of 26 May 2003 (O.J. L146, of 13<sup>th</sup> June) and respective amendments.

## I – Coming from EU Member States

1. Dogs and cats entering Portugal from other EU Member States, will be subject to presentation of a **passport**, issued by a **veterinarian authorised** by the competent authority, indicating the data giving the owner's name and address, and certifying:
  - a) that the animal is **identified** either:
    - i) by a microchip – complying with ISO Standard 11784 or Annex A to ISO Standard 11785, otherwise, the owner must provide the necessary means for its reading;
    - ii) or by a clearly readable tattoo – allowed only by a transitional period (until 3.7.2011).
  - b) a **valid anti-rabies vaccination/revaccination<sup>2)</sup>**, carried out when the animal was at least three months old, in accordance with the recommendations of the manufacturing laboratory, with an inactivated vaccine of at least one antigenic unit per dose (WHO standard).
2. Dogs and cats **until 3 months of age** which have not a valid anti-rabies vaccination yet, will be allowed into Portugal if,
  - a) accompanied by their mothers, on whom they are still dependent, which shall travel covered by a passport accomplishing the predicted on point **I.1**;
  - b) however, pet animals coming from **Ireland, Malta, Sweden** and **United Kingdom**, may not be accompanied by their mothers, as long as they will travel covered by a passport according to the conditions stated on point **I.1.a)**, and have stayed in the place of origin since birth.
3. On the expedition of those pet animals to other Member States, provisions of point **I.1** applies, except for **Ireland, Malta, Sweden** and **United Kingdom**, for which there are specific conditions. The authorities of these countries should be consulted for each case, or the following websites:

Irish: <http://www.agriculture.gov.ie>

Maltese: <http://www.mrae.gov.mt>

Swedish: <http://www.sjv.se>

British: <http://www.defra.gov.uk>

## II - Coming from non EU countries or reintroduced after a stay abroad in those countries<sup>3)</sup>

1. Pet animals coming from non EU countries, will be subject to the presentation of a **Health Certificate<sup>4),5)</sup>**, issued/endorsed by the **Official Veterinary Authority** of the country of origin, certifying:
  - a) **identification**, according to the system defined on **I.1.a)**.
  - b) a **valid anti-rabies vaccination<sup>2)</sup>**, according to the provisions of **I.1.b)**.
  - c) a **neutralising antibody titration** at least equal to 0,5 IU/ml, performed in an approved laboratory<sup>5)</sup>, carried out on a sample taken by an authorised veterinarian at least 30 days after anti-rabies vaccination and three months before being moved.
2. However, **the antibody titration test is not required** for pet animals coming from countries stated on **Section 2 of Part B<sup>6)</sup>**, or **Part C of ANNEX II of Regulation (EC) No 998/2003**, as last amended.
3. It's not allowed the entry of these animals, **until three months old** which have not yet a valid anti-rabies vaccination, except for animals coming from countries listed in point **II.2** above accompanied by their mothers on whom they are still dependent, which shall travel in accordance with the legal conditions.
4. For the **return** after a **brief stay abroad** outside the European Union (around 1 month), it is permitted the re-entry in Portugal with a **passport** issued in our country before the beginning of the voyage, certifying, according to each case:
  - a) if the animals travel to a country stated on **II.2**, an **identification** and a **vaccination** as defined on **I.1**.
  - b) if the animals travel to other countries than those stated on **II.2**, besides the **identification** and **vaccination** referred above, the result of a **titration test** as established on **II.1.c)**. In this case, **the three month period** after the blood sample collection and before the re-entry date, **shall not apply**, as long as the titration test is performed before the beginning of the journey.

Case the **stay abroad duration will be longer**, it is also advisable, if it is the case, to have the **titration test** done before leaving Portugal and guarantee that the booster anti-rabies vaccinations will be performed within the prescribed intervals.

5. Besides these rules, dogs and cats coming from **Malaysia (Peninsula)** and cats coming from **Australia** are subject to specific protection measures as established by **Decision 2006/146/EC**, and respective amendments.