

About the attached Petition:

Thank you for taking time from your busy schedule to participate in this petition which focuses on the rabies regulations in our State. The petition was presented to you by one of your clients or a concerned pet owner. We hope you will give it your thoughtful attention.

For pet owners and breeders, there are huge consequences when a pet's health is in decline. We are interested in avoiding those triggers that contribute to ill health. We want the option of an affordable titer (available through an online account with Kansas State Veterinary's Lab).

A frequent response for giving a rabies vaccination is "It's the law." Vaccine companies know that if a sick dog is vaccinated, the vaccine is less likely to be effective and adverse events are more likely. This is clearly stated on their inserts. The effort to change this should include your professional recognition of the problem. The regulation change is not a mandate to titer, but an option for owned pets.

Rarely are adverse vaccine reactions reported, even though the USDA reporting system states, "An adverse event is any undesirable occurrence after the use of an immunobiological product, including illness or reaction, whether or not the event was caused by the product." Multiple references state that vaccines are "safe and effective and adverse vaccine events are rare." Should we accept this when the feedback is scarce and unavailable?

Please partner with your clients and offer titers as part of your Wellness Plan. We appreciate your participation.

Thank you!

(Your name and contact information)

(Make arrangements to stop by the clinic and pick up the Petition, or, provide an addressed stamped envelope).

Please email a signed copy to Dr. Robb drrobb@protectthepets.com

RE: Signed Petition + your State, your active State PTP coordinator, or, use this for organizing in your region.

Dear State Legislators, Senators and Governor:

RE: Amending the rabies bill and veterinary support for responsible pet vaccination

As a veterinarian practicing (or retired) in the State of (**enter your state**), I support rabies antibody titer testing to check for circulating antibodies following rabies vaccination. This comprehensive approach will improve public health.

I agree that:

1. Rabies management to protect public health is necessary. Rabies is a lethal disease with pets susceptible to contracting through wildlife. Protocols have changed with new evidence.^{2,9,10}
2. I, as a veterinarian, with potential exposure to rabid animals am vaccinated against rabies. I don't re-vaccinate myself for rabies but rather periodically check a rabies titer and only re-vaccinate myself if the antibody titer falls below an acceptable level.³ The reason being is that I do not want to get sick. Any rabies vaccine has the potential for an adverse reaction.
3. Clients willing to pay for a rabies antibody titer test should have that option.⁴
4. Vaccination does not equal immunity. However, a rabies titer verifies that the rabies vaccine given was effective in producing immunity.
5. The current requirement for the issuing a Rabies Vaccination Certificate could be easily replaced with a Rabies Titer Certificate.
6. Re-vaccination does not improve immunity if antibodies are present. It opens the door to potential adverse reactions.⁹
7. Better compliance will occur when we do not mandate over-vaccination, but instead, verify immunity with a titer.¹⁰
8. A "one size fits all" approach is flawed.^{11,12,13}

Signature _____ Print _____

Graduated from _____ Date _____

Citations

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2. Moore, SM, [“Rabies prevention: the role of serology in parenteral vaccination of companion animals and livestock”](#) (only Abstract is available). Aug 2018. “Rabies virus (RABV) – specific antibodies generated in response to rabies vaccination provide the basis for establishment of rabies protection and hence rabies control and prevention. Rabies serology is the primary and most appropriate way to determine vaccination efficacy.” Note –
3. Center for Disease Control, [“Should my staff and I be vaccinated?”](#) April 2012.
4. Kansas State Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, [RFFT Tests](#). Jan 2019.
5. Lau, Edie, Study: [Pets overdue for rabies shot still protected, Rabies compendium update to reflect discovery](#). VIN, June 2015
6. USDA, [“Prospective Serologic Monitoring Protocol: NASPHV Compendium Of Animal Rabies Prevention and Control,”](#) 2016.
7. Shere, J. USDA, Veterinary Services Memorandum 800.202, [“General Licensing Consideration: Efficacy Studies for Prophylactic and Therapeutic Biologics.”](#) Oct 2016.
8. Murray KO, Holmes KC, et al. [Rabies in Vaccinated dogs and cats in the United States, 1997-2001](#). 2009 *JAVMA prohibits distribution. Abstract via NIH
9. Strogdale, L. [“Study of canine vaccine antibody responses”](#), Innovative Veterinary Care, Feb 2017
10. [Preventing and Managing Adverse Reactions](#), CDC (ACIP), :Persons Who Have Had an Allergic Reaction Following a Previous Immunization; “...try to identify component responsible”.
11. Moore, MC, Davis RD, et al. [Comparison of anamnestic responses to rabies vaccination in dogs and cats with current and out-of-date vaccination status](#). Jan 2015: Vol 246, JAVMA.
12. [Dr Ronald Schultz on Pet Vaccines”](#), Part 1 – “antibody titer is either protective or it is not”.
13. [Dr Ronald Schultz – Core and Non-core Vaccines”](#), Part 2
14. Berndtsson, LT, Nyman A, et al. [“Factors associated with the success of rabies vaccination of dogs in Sweden”](#). 2011.
15. Kennedy LJ, Lunt M, et al. [“Factors influencing the antibody response of dogs vaccinated against rabies”](#). 2007.

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