

Rabies Titer (Serology) Testing for Pet Travel to China

Client planning guide for dogs and cats travelling from Canada

TESTING OPTIONS	
Regular service	\$310 + HST
Expedited service	\$380 + HST
Fee generally includes	Blood collection, preparation of required laboratory documentation, laboratory processing, and shipping/handling.

Turnaround time: Regular service may take approximately 6–8 weeks. Expedited service is generally sooner because faster shipping is used; however, an exact result date cannot be guaranteed.

How to Book the Rabies Titer Test

1. Schedule a veterinary appointment

Blood must be collected by a licensed veterinarian.

2. Confirm prerequisites before booking

Your pet must have a valid rabies vaccination. For China-related testing, sampling should be planned at least 21 days after the applicable rabies vaccination.

3. Sample collection and laboratory submission

We collect the blood sample, prepare the laboratory documentation, and submit the sample to an appropriate rabies serology laboratory.

Rabies Titer – Key China Planning Information

- Target rabies neutralizing antibody result: at least 0.5 IU/mL.
- Plan blood collection at least 21 days after rabies vaccination. The rabies vaccination must have been administered between 30 days prior to arrival in China and not more than 12 months prior to arrival. Note that China does not recognize multi-year vaccines.
- Testing must be performed by a laboratory acceptable for the destination requirements.
- Keep the original laboratory report with the pet's travel documentation.
- Because import rules can change, the applicable validity period and all entry requirements should be confirmed for the pet's specific travel date and port of entry.

Canada to China – Suggested Planning Sequence

All cats and dogs entering China must be accompanied by a veterinary health certificate for China which must be issued by a licensed veterinarian and stamped (endorsed) by the government of the origination country responsible for the import and export of live animals.

1. Microchip

Confirm that the pet's identification/microchip information is recorded correctly on all travel documents. An ISO-compatible 15-digit microchip is commonly used for international travel.

2. Rabies vaccination

Must have 2 rabies vaccinations done one previously and one rabies vaccination must be current and up to date. Bring the complete rabies vaccination history to the appointment so the veterinarian can review it against the current destination requirements.

3. Rabies titer test

Collect the blood sample at the appropriate interval and submit it to the laboratory.

4. Allow sufficient time for results

Regular service may take approximately 6–8 weeks. Expedited service may reduce shipping time, but laboratory, courier, customs, and regulatory timelines are not guaranteed.

5. Final health/export documentation

A veterinarian completes the applicable health documentation, and CFIA endorsement will be required before departure. The exact certificate and timing must be verified against the current Chinese import requirements.

IMPORTANT – POSSIBLE SHIPPING / CUSTOMS DELAYS

Rabies titer samples is shipped from Canada to a laboratory in the United States. On rare occasions, U.S. Customs or other border/regulatory authorities may hold or inspect a shipment for additional review. This can delay delivery of the sample to the laboratory and therefore delay the final result. **These delays are outside the control of Weldrick Animal Hospital, the courier, and the testing laboratory.** For this reason, we cannot guarantee a specific result date, including with expedited service.

PLAN EARLY

We recommend starting the process at least 8–10 weeks before travel, and earlier whenever possible, to allow for vaccination timing, laboratory processing, shipping, customs or regulatory delays, and final export documentation.

Important: Travel requirements are established by government authorities and may change without notice. Pet owners remain responsible for confirming the current import requirements for their destination, airline, route, and port of entry. Testing or preparation of documents by Weldrick Animal Hospital does not guarantee acceptance of a pet by an airline, border authority, CFIA, or the destination country.

To book the appointment, please call us to schedule it.

Warmest Regards,

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