

Board of Veterinary Medicine



Rabies Vaccination Committee Survey Report

December 14, 2011

Committee Members
Barbara Fischley, DVM Chair
Sharon Todoroff

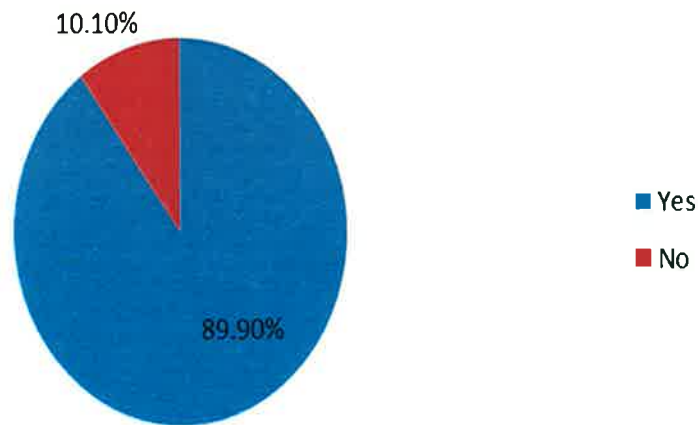
Scope of Survey

- 2,001 active licensees with MN address.
- 109 licensees of group have not provided email address.
- 1,892 licensees were emailed Rabies Vaccination Survey.
- 148 emails bounced back.
- 1,744 licensees received Rabies Vaccination Survey.
- Survey open from 11/22/2011 thru 12/08/2011
(17 days)
- 545 licensees responded to survey.

1) Do you provide rabies vaccinations for dogs and cats in your practice?

% Number

1) Do you provide rabies vaccinations for dogs and cats in your practice?



Yes 89.90% 490

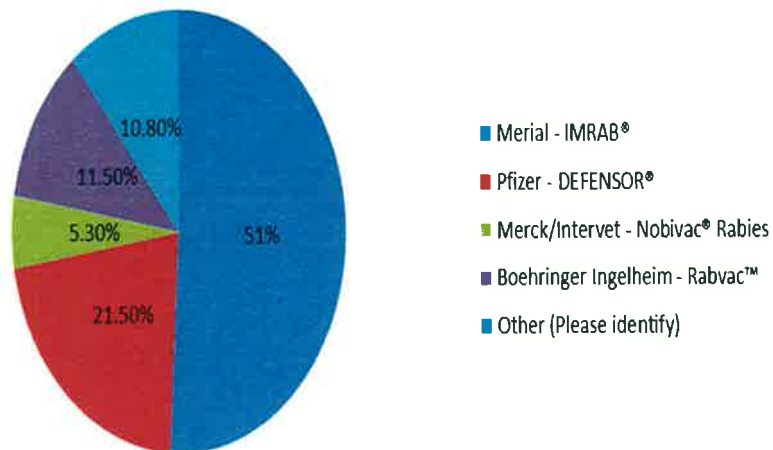
No 10.10% 55

Answered Question
545

Skipped Question
0

2) What rabies vaccine do you use the majority of the time in your practice?

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Merial - IMRAB®
51% 213

Pfizer - DEFENSOR®
21.50% 90

Merck/Intervet-Nobivac®
5.30% 22

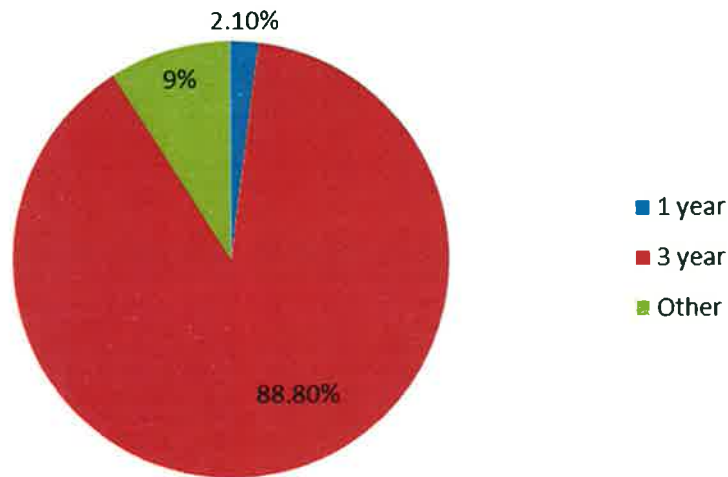
Boehringer Ingelheim-
Rabvac™

11.50% 48

• Other (Please identify)
10.80% 45

3)With the rabies vaccine you use, what is the USDA licensed duration of immunity?

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1 year	2.10%	9
3 year	88.80%	373
Other	9%	38

Page 3, Q3. With the rabies vaccine you use, what is the USDA licensed duration of immunity?

1 imrab 3 years, purevax 1 year

2 Imrab 3 year PureVax, 1 year

3 1 year if it is there first vaccination or if they go beyond the expiration of when they need a booster. Otherwise it is a 3 year vaccine after their first initial shot as long as they come in to be revaccinated before the expiration date.

4 3 year for dogs 1 year for cats

5 3 yr dogs, 1 yr cats

6 3 years dogs, 1 year cats

7 PureVax = 1 yr, Pfizer Defensor = 2 yrs

8 Initial vaccination then 1 year later, then every 3 years after that

9 3 year in Defensor 1 year in Pure-vac

10 3 for dogs, 1 for cats

11 Meriel's cat vaccine is licensed for 1 yr only

12 horse-1yr, dog 3 yr., cat 1 yr

13 For cats - in the 1st year, I use the 1yr lic vaoc all else I use the 3 year and mark it as 1yr on the 1st vaoc or when reinstituting vaoc after more than 4 years

14 3 yr for dogs, canarypox 1 yr for cats

15 1 or 3 years depending if a puppy/kitten or adult

16 First Vac3 ms or older, repeat at 1 year, 3 years after that

17 age determines 1st vac., 2nd one 12 mo. later is 3 years.

18 annually for horses; annually 1st time dogs/cats; then 3 yr

19 Annual after 1st vaccination, every 3 years after that

20 dogs-3 cats-1

21 3 yr unless it is the first rabies vx or they missed due date by more than 6 mos

22 1 year purevax for cats and 3 year imrab for dogs

23 2 years

24 1 yr cats, 2 yr dogs

25 feline 1yr canine 3yr

26 3 yr - dogs, 1 yr - cats

27 Dogs 3yr., Cats 1 yr.

28 cats 1 year and dogs 3 year

29 dogs-3yrs /cats-one yr

30 Pfizer 3yr. Merial Purevax 1yr.

31 IMRAB 1 yr for 1st k-8, then 3yr. Purvax is only 1yr for cats

32 annual, then tri-annual

33 1 yr for cats and 3yrs for dogs

34 3yrs for dogs/1yr for cats

35 3 year for dogs, 1 year for cats

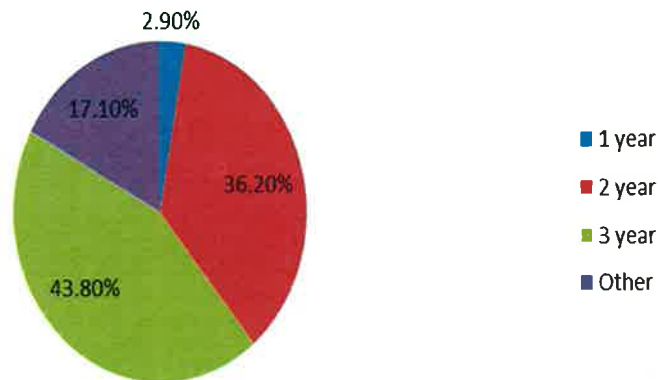
36 2 year

37 1 year for first known dose, three years thereafter

38 3 years for dogs, 1 year for cats

4) What is the duration of immunity or expiration date you record on the rabies certificate?

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1 year	2.90%	12
2 year	36.20%	152
3 year	43.80%	184
Other	17.10%	72

Page 3, Q4. What is the duration of immunity or expiration date you record on the rabies certificate?

1 1 year for cats, 2 years for dogs

2 1 year then if boosted on time every 3 years

3 1 year for cats, 2 year for dogs

4 3 year on small dogs, 2 year on large dogs, 1 year on cats

5 1 year if it is there first vaccination or if they go beyond the expiration of when they need a booster. Otherwise it is a 3 year vaccine after their first initial shot as long as they come in to be revaccinated before the expiration date.

6 3 year for dogs 1 year for cats

7 Usually 3 years. In some hunting dogs, more often as required by State where they will be hunting. In puppies Rabies vaccine will only be good for a year.

8 3 yr dogs, 1 yr cats

9 Will say 1 year for booster, then 3 years if current

10 Usually 3 years but in some hunting dogs will do it more frequent based on the requirements of the county or state where they will be hunting.

11 2 years dogs, 1 year cats

12 depends on the circumstances the animal. including exposure to wild animals.

13 1 or 3 year depending on previous vaccine status; first time given, 1 year expiration date; upon booster at 1 year of age, a 3 year expiration date is recorded.

14 Cats = 1 yr, Dogs = 2 yr

15 Rochester city license requires 2 year renewal

16 3 years unless a city's local ordinance requires 2 years. Our reminder system is set up to accommodate both.

17 above

18 3 year duration unless first rabies vaccination.

19 1 year after the first vaccine and after that yearly booster 3 years

20 3 for dogs, 1 for cats

21 certs for dogs=3 yr, cats=1 year

22 1 year booster, then every 2 years

23 initial one year, then 3 years

24 1 year or 3 year depending on previous history

25 as above

26 First year 1 year, boosters 2 years

27 one year for 1st, 3 years for 2nd a year later.

28 as above; exp. based on lot #

29 Post vaccination: 1 year for first vaccine and 3 years for boosters thereafter

30 dogs- 3yr cats-1yr

31 currently 2 years but starting Jan 1 we are changing to 3 year.

32 DEPENDS ON IF IT IS THEIR FIRST RABIES VACCINATION THEN IT IS A 1 YR. IF IT IS THEIR 2ND AND IT IS GIVEN IN A TIMELY FASHION THEN IT IS A 2 YR VACCINE.

33 2 year unless after discussion with the client we decide to make it 3 year

34 3 year unless it is their first rabies vx

35 puppy and first time adult vaccine - 1 year, there after every 3 years

36 1 year for cats and 3 year for dogs

37 1 yr cats, 2 yr dogs

38 1yr first k9, 3yr add k9 1yr feline

39 1 year on 1st rabies 3yr on each additional meds

40 Dogs 3 yr, Cats 1 yr

41 1 yr initial vaccination, 3 yrs booster

42 cats one year and dogs 3 years

43 dogs-2yrs /cats-one yr

44 1yr if initial dose, 3yr if booster on time

45 1 year first vaccine, 3 year after if given before vaccine expires.

46 2.5 yr

47 never been vaccinated-1 year. High exposure or history or suspect poor compliance-2 year

48 hunting dogs 2yr/indoor dogs 3yr/1st time vaccinates 1yr

49 Pfizer 3yr. Merial Purevax 1yr.

50 it

Page 3, Q4. What is the duration of immunity or expiration date you record on the rabies certificate?

- | | |
|----|---|
| 51 | The first Rabies vaccine is good for one year if animal is under 1 years old or has never received a rabies vaccine, the next is good for 3 years. |
| 52 | 1 year for 1st, 3 year for boosters |
| 53 | depends upon if initial or booster vaccination |
| 54 | Imrab 2 yr for k-9, 1 yr for cats |
| 55 | 2 or 3 years depending upon the animal's lifestyle |
| 56 | Three years unless it is the first vaccination |
| 57 | For puppies/kittens and any adult with no known prior rabies, we put a 1 year duration. The 2nd rabies vaccine and any subsequent are good for 3 years. |
| 58 | We have recently switched so that we give a 3 yr duration whereas we previously called it a 2 year vaccine. |
| 59 | Depends on age of animal and vax history |
| 60 | If first vacc--1 year, if boosted 1 year later then 3 year |
| 61 | We just recently changed to 3 year--had always done every 2 years |
| 62 | one yr for cats and 3 yrs for dogs |
| 63 | If "Adults" dog=3yrs, cat=1 yr |
| 64 | 1 year first dose Consequent doses- 2 year if in city of Albert Lea city limits(required by city), 3 year for all others. |
| 65 | 2 year for dogs. 1 year for cats |
| 66 | 2 year EXCEPT when vaccinating puppy or kitten then boost in one year |
| 67 | 1 year for cats with Merial and 3 year for dogs with Pfizer |
| 68 | 1 yr if 1st Rabies Vaccine, 3 yr if 2nd Rabies Vaccine |
| 69 | 1 year for first vaccine, 3 years for boosters |
| 70 | 1 year if it's their first rabies vaccination, 2 years if it's not |
| 71 | 1 year for first dose, three years thereafter |
| 72 | 1 year for puppies, 3 year for adult dogs |

5) If the duration of immunity or expiration date that you record on the rabies certificate is something different from what the rabies vaccine is licensed for, why is that?

1. Municipal or County ordinance requires rabies vaccination more frequently than what the vaccine is licensed for to license dogs and cats in the community where my practice is located.
2. Municipal or County ordinance requires rabies vaccination more frequently than what the vaccine is licensed for to license dogs and cats in the community where the animal owner lives.
3. I want to examine the dog or cat at least every one to two years to evaluate the health of the animal and this is a good way to get the animal owner to comply.
4. I recommend more frequent rabies vaccination than what the vaccine is licensed for because dogs and cats are often presented to me for rabies vaccination and their rabies vaccination has already expired.
5. I recommend more frequent rabies vaccination than what the vaccine is licensed for because of where the animal lives or the occupation that the animal has and the increased potential of exposure to rabid animals.
6. I record on the rabies certificate the duration of immunity and expiration date that the rabies vaccine is licensed for.
7. Other (please explain)

Response Percent

Response Count

12.60%

44

5.20%

18

4.30%

15

17.80%

62

5.50%

19

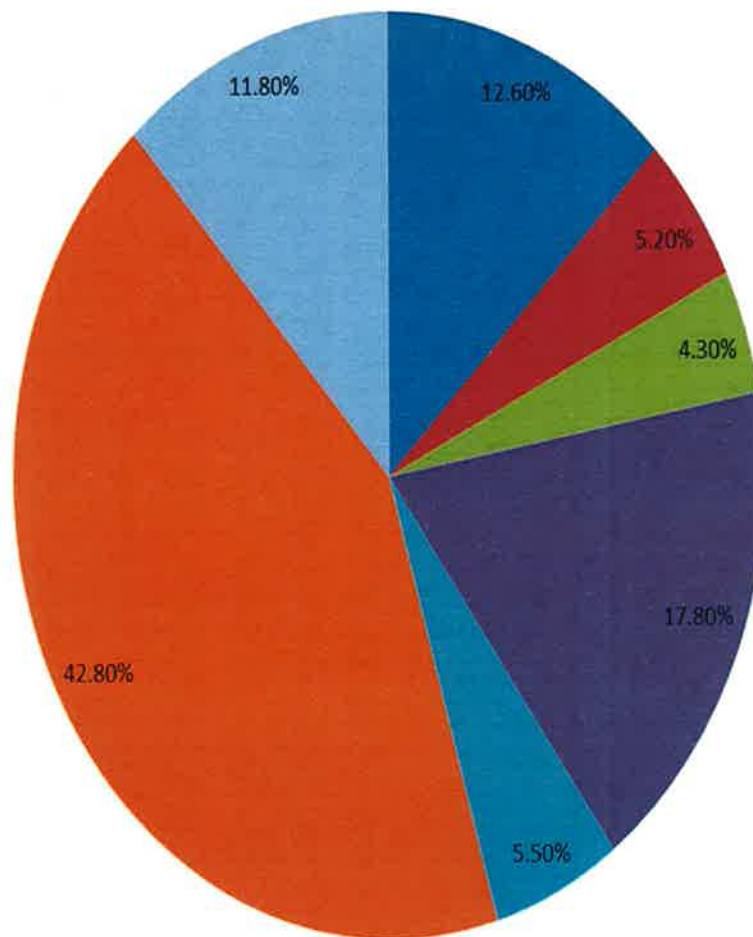
42.80%

149

11.80%

41

5) If the duration of immunity or expiration date that you record on the rabies certificate is something different from what the rabies vaccine is licensed for, why is that? If the duration of immunity or expiration date that you record on the rabies cert



- Municipal or County ordinance requires rabies vaccination more frequently than what the vaccine is licensed for to license dogs and cats in the community where my practice is located.
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- I recommend more frequent rabies vaccination than what the vaccine is licensed for because of where the animal lives or the occupation that the animal has and the increased potential of exposure to rabid animals.
- I record on the rabies certificate the duration of immunity and expiration date that the rabies vaccine is licensed for.
- Other (please explain)

Page 3, Q5. If the duration of immunity or expiration date that you record on the rabies certificate is something different from what the rabies vaccine is licensed for, why is that?

1	Based on what I believe are Minnesota state requirements for revaccination of rabies for dogs	16	Our small animal clinic may send 2-yr reminder to clients that may not respond in time for the 3-yr booster
2	I was under the opinion that the State recognizes the vaccine as current for only a 2 yr period. Vaccinating every 2 years helps to keep compliance within the licensed period.	17	One adjoining town requires rabies vaccination every two years for licensing. We also want to examine the dog and get the Rabies vaccine in before 3 years. When we make a note of expiration at two years, it usually gets done by 3 years. If we would note 3 years, most would not schedule an appointment until after three years.
3	I want to play it safe with dogs more likely to be exposed to rabies	18	Rabies vaco is due every 2 years, it is not past due for 3 years. The overlap reduces the risk of out of date rabies immunization and the public health concern.
4	For owner compliance so that there is still a time frame for them to get the vaccination boosted that fits with the licensed duration as there is low compliance with coming into booster vaccination exactly when vaccination is due.	19	Our practice is surrounded by municipalities that have a variety of requirements for rabies vaccines. It is easier to use the shortest duration of immunity to practice. Additionally, many of our dogs travel out of state and other states have a variety of requirements.
5	Actually, I would answer numbers 1, 2 and 4	20	I do the last except that is I record on the rabies certificate the duration of immunity and expiration day that the rabies vaccine is licensed for, except 1st Rabies vaccine expires in a year, using the labeled 3year vaccine
6	This is the protocol that the clinic had when i was employed here, we are planning to change it in 2012, but the owner of the practice argues that we much vaccinate farm dogs yearly because of increased risk of exposure to a rabid animal and the other dogs in the community have an expiration date of 2 years because people will then come in before the vaccine has expired at the three year mark.	21	Do not do any other vaccines than the one year for cats (work at a feline-only).
7	Many clients delay their visit for vaccination and the dog remains current.	22	We maximize the duration of the rabies except if the dog or cat is high risk. ie high land hunting dog or outdoor cat
8	To ensure animals stay up-to-date on vaccination, even when they come in late for their revaccination.	23	The certificate is written for 3 years. Some clients with outdoor dogs that run loose and have interactions with wildlife are boosted in 2 years. The client participates in teh decision.
9	practice owner requires more frequent vaccination, I personally am not in agreement with this practice.	24	Options 4 and 5. Most are written as 3 year, but when I digress from that protocol, it is for reasons 4 and 5. Survey would only allow 1 answer.
10	It only allow me to check 1 box. For dogs, we usually do a '2 year' vaccine because a) they are then protected if the owner is late for their booster; and b) some of the city ordinances require more frequent vaccines. Since we have clients from all over, it is most consistent for us to use a '2 year' protocol.	25	There communities that require 2 year vaccination for licensure even though we use a 3 year rabies. I so not believe the communities should do that and are causing the owners increased expense for their pets.
11	Minnesota requires 2 years	26	THREE LOCAL CITIES REQUIRE TWO YEAR SO ALL ARE 2 YEAR. THIS DOES COVER ABOUT 85 TO 90% OF MY PATIENTS. MOST OF THE REST ARE RURAL DOGS AND EXPOSURE RISK HIGHER. #6 SHOULD BE EXPLAINED. MOST CLIENTS HAVE THIS EXPLAINED WHEN GIVING THE FIRST RABIES DOSE BUT NOT AFTER THIS.
12	I tell owners that the vaccine is licensed for three years and that they will recieve a reminder for booster in 2 years to prevent a lapse in protection.	27	Owners are told the label is for 3 years but liability problems can arise if they are late and the animal bites someone, so we send reminders at 2 years.
13	we do 1 yr because we are vaccinating rescue animals and are unsure of the animal's vaccination status	28	If under 1 year, I repeat the vaccine 1 year later because I want to make sure that the animals immune system was mature enough to mount a good immune response. AAHA guidelines.
14	We used to give a 2 year expiration date for the 3 year vaccine to try to prevent animals from being 'overdue' on the vaccine if it was boosted late. We found this created some confusion with our clients, and some clients thought it was somewhat deceptive, so we opted to change to a 3 year vaccination date for our 3 year licensed vaccine.	29	Expiration date of vaccine is when the pet needs to return to get re-vaccinated; duration of immunity is always three years based on licensure of the vaccine
15	We remind at 2 years because many times they delay in coming in...and will lapse. Clients that are consistent with visits, we will often do a 3 year reminder and discuss it with them		

Page 3, Q5. If the duration of immunity or expiration date that you record on the rabies certificate is something different from what the rabies vaccine is licensed for, why is that?

- | | |
|----|--|
| 30 | we were previously required by municipality to do every 2 yrs for k-9, also we are presented with pets who are overdue for rabies vaccine. We will adjust to 3 yr is asked by client |
| 31 | As I said above, we switched because we had mistakenly understood that the county required it every 2 years, but it is also understandable that some people ignore their reminders and may not get the pet until way after the expiration date. We are now calling it a 3 year vaccine. |
| 32 | Working with a population of animals with unknown vaccination history; assume not vaccinated and give expiration date of 1 year. |
| 33 | Several reasons. Many owners are delinquent with vaccinations. Risk vs Benefit outweighs itself by far for a disease that is not cureable and zoonotic. |
| 34 | Combination of several factors. The Municipality requires more frequent vaccination. Also due to the fact that when owners are late on a 3 year duration the pets have potentially been exposed to rabies or may have exposed a person. With a 2 year duration we have a 12 month cushion. |
| 35 | The company states trust it for 2 years but not 3 total and many of the animals are farm or hunting origin and frequently could be exposed to rabies. |
| 36 | after the 2nd vaccine i record duration of immunity that the vaccine is liscenced for |
| 37 | More than one of the above and It fits with our program of alternating the rabies and distemper vaccines. |
| 38 | The animals I see have no known vaccine history, so I treat each vaccine as if it were the first; thus, requiring a "booster" in 1 year. |
| 39 | The practice owner decided many years ago to institute a 2-year Rabies policy because of the number of positive cases in this area, the general lack of compliance of owners, and the general safety of the vaccine - I comply with the company policy. |
| 40 | We have 3 practices. One of our practices is located in a community that the city requires 2 year rabies. To be consistent we use that at all 3 clinics. I also believe that a 2 year expiration provides a window of safety since most pets are often late for routine vaccines. |
| 41 | 2 & 5 above plus gives us a buffer zone for clients late on their vaccinations. |

6) If the duration of immunity or expiration date that you record on the rabies certificate is something different from what the rabies vaccine is licensed for, do you inform the animal owner of this?

Response Percent

Response Count

Yes

59.10%

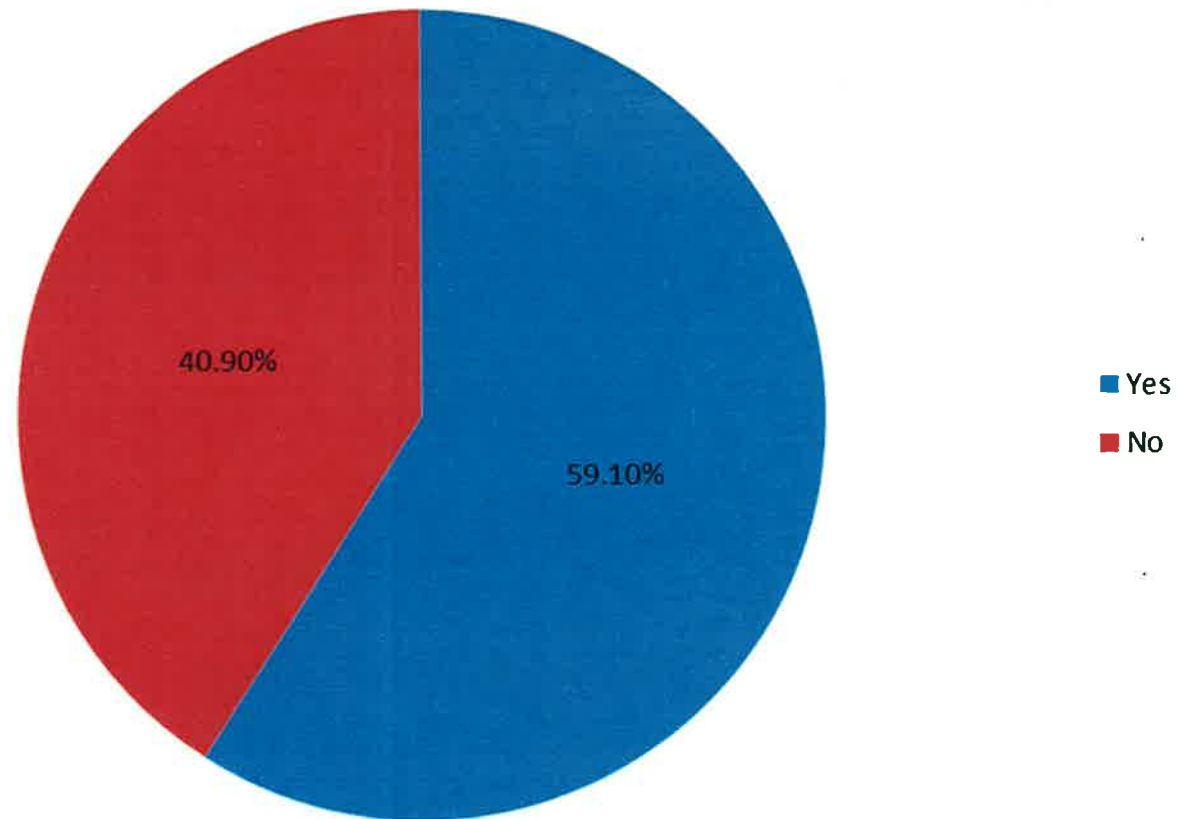
165

No

40.90%

114

6) If the duration of immunity or expiration date that you record on the rabies certificate is something different from what the rabies vaccine is licensed for, do you inform the animal owner of this?



Proposed Conclusions

- It appears that a number of veterinarians are vaccinating dogs more often than every three years.
- The rationale for this practice appears to be what the veterinarian believes is the local ordinance, the likelihood of rabies exposure, and the desire that the dog's rabies vaccination does not become overdue.
- There is little evidence that the practice of vaccinating dogs more often than every three years is motivated by financial gain or a desire to deceive the owner.
- It appears that a number of veterinarians that vaccinate dogs more often than every three years do not inform the client of the vaccine's duration of immunity.
- Other conclusions?