

Appendix 1. Survey distributed to Canadian veterinarians to explore their experiences and perceptions with canine importation

Exploring the experiences of Canadian veterinarians with canine importation

Start of Block: Consent

Q1 Consent

- Yes
 - No
-

Section 1: Background

Q2 I work in:

- British Columbia
 - Alberta
 - Saskatchewan
 - Manitoba
 - Ontario
 - Quebec
 - Nova Scotia
 - New Brunswick
 - Prince Edward Island
 - Newfoundland and Labrador
 - Yukon
 - Northwest Territories
 - Nunavut
-

Q3 My primary area of work is:

- Companion animal
 - Mixed
 - Large animal
 - Shelter medicine
 - Other: _____
-

Q4 I have been in practice for _____ years.

- < 1 year
 - 1 - 5 years
 - 5 - 15 years
 - > 15 years
-

Section 2: Experience with imported dogs

Q5 I see dogs who have been imported and/or adopted internationally:

- Regularly (on a weekly or monthly basis)
 - Occasionally (a few per year)
 - Infrequently (once every few years)
 - Never
 - Other: _____
-

Q6 I would estimate that in the past year, the number of newly imported dogs I have seen is: _____ (please answer with a number).

Q7 In the past year, I have seen dogs imported from (select all that apply):

- United States
 - Central America (e.g., Mexico, Guatemala, Nicaragua)
 - Caribbean (e.g., Dominican Republic, Cuba, St. Kitts and Nevis)
 - Eastern Asia (e.g., China, South Korea)
 - Eastern Europe (e.g., Ukraine, Poland, Slovakia, Hungary)
 - Southern Europe (e.g., Greece, Portugal, Spain, Italy)
 - North Africa (e.g., Egypt, Morocco)
 - Other country or region: _____
-

Q8 The most common location of importation I see is:

- United States
 - Central America (e.g., Mexico, Guatemala, Nicaragua)
 - Caribbean (e.g., Dominican Republic, Cuba, St. Kitts and Nevis)
 - Eastern Asia (e.g., China, South Korea)
 - Eastern Europe (e.g., Ukraine, Poland, Slovakia, Hungary)
 - Southern Europe (e.g., Greece, Portugal, Spain, Italy)
 - North Africa (e.g., Egypt, Morocco)
 - Other country or region: _____
-

Q9a Common routes of importation I have seen are through (check all that apply):

- Shelter organizations
 - Rescue organizations
 - Breeders
 - Client travel (i.e., bringing a dog home after holiday)
 - Do not know
 - Other: _____
-

Display This Question:

If Common routes of importation I have seen are through (check all that apply): = Shelter organizations

Or Common routes of importation I have seen are through (check all that apply): = Rescue organizations

Or Common routes of importation I have seen are through (check all that apply): = Breeders

Or Common routes of importation I have seen are through (check all that apply): = Other:

Q9b The most common route of importation I have seen is through:

- Shelter organizations
 - Rescue organizations
 - Breeders
 - Client travel (i.e., bringing a dog home after holiday)
 - Do not know
 - Other: _____
-

Q10 Please rate the consistency with which you observe the following practices for dogs who have been imported internationally:

	Consistently (>75%)	Sometimes (~50%)	Inconsistently (<25%)	Never	Not enough information to tell
Dogs have received rabies vaccination PRIOR to importation.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Dogs have received other core vaccinations PRIOR to importation.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Dogs have received comprehensive and appropriate parasiticide (internal and external) treatment PRIOR to importation.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Dogs have undergone a period of isolation BEFORE shipping to Canada.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Dogs have undergone a period of isolation AFTER arrival to Canada and before adoption.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Owners have received appropriate information on potential animal and human health risks from the adoption group BEFORE the adoption.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Owners have received appropriate information on potential animal and human health risks from the adoption group AFTER the adoption.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q11 If you have additional information to share on practices, please expand below:

Section 3: Veterinary Approaches

Q12 For each new dog I see, I ask the source of the dog:

- Frequently (>75% of the time)
 - Occasionally (~50% of the time)
 - Rarely (<25% of adoptions)
 - Never
-

Q13 At every appointment, I ask the travel history of the dog.

- Frequently (>75% of the time)
 - Occasionally (~50% of the time)
 - Rarely (<25% of adoptions)
 - Never
-

Q14 I have been contacted by international rescue groups to plan their health procedures for importation and adoption in the last 2 years.

- Yes
 - No
-

Q15 I am contacted by prospective owners prior to importation.

- Frequently (>75% of adoptions)
 - Occasionally (~50% of adoptions)
 - Rarely (<25% of adoptions)
 - Never
-

Q16a I usually see dogs within one week of being imported.

- Frequently (>75% of adoptions)
- Occasionally (~50% of adoptions)
- Rarely (<25% of adoptions)
- Never

Display This Question:

*If I usually see dogs within one week of being imported. = Frequently (>75% of adoptions)
Or I usually see dogs within one week of being imported. = Occasionally (~50% of adoptions)
Or I usually see dogs within one week of being imported. = Rarely (*

16b The most common reason for a veterinary visit within one week of being imported is:

- Routine check-up (including vaccinations, deworming, spay/neuter)
- Suspected health issue
- Behavioural issue
- Injury, trauma
- Other: _____

Q17a If I am aware that a dog has been imported, I take special precautions in my clinic.

- Yes
- No
- Depends

Display This Question:

*If I am aware that a dog has been imported, I take special precautions in my clinic. = Yes
Or If I am aware that a dog has been imported, I take special precautions in my clinic. = Depends*

Q17b Please describe these precautions and why you take them.

**Q18 For the question below, compare imported dogs to domestically sourced dogs.
In imported dogs, I encounter:**

	Much more	Somewhat more	About the same	Somewhat less	Much less
External parasites	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Internal parasites	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Infectious diseases	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Non-infectious diseases	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Trauma / injuries	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Behavioural disorders	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q19a Which of the following have you diagnosed in an imported dog in the past 5 years (check all that apply and indicate the approximate number of cases in the accompanying text box):

- Rabies: _____
- Leishmaniasis: _____
- Brucellosis: _____
- Canine influenza: _____
- Brown dog ticks: _____
- Parvovirus enteritis: _____
- Distemper: _____
- Canine Infectious Respiratory Disease Complex: _____
- Heartworm: _____
- Canine ehrlichiosis: _____
- Babesiosis: _____
- Alveolar echinococcosis (Echinococcus multilocularis infection): _____
- Trauma/injury, illness, or exacerbation of pre-existing health condition as a result of transportation _____
- None of the above
- Other: _____

Q19b Please share any additional information based on your experience(s) above:

Q20a In the past 5 years, have you had concerns about the transport conditions endured by a newly imported dog(s)?

- Yes
 - No
 - Don't know
-

Display This Question:

If In the past 5 years, have you had concerns about the transport conditions endured by a newly impo... = Yes

Q20b Please explain what concerned you about the transport condition(s).

Q21 In the past 5 years, when examining documents that accompanied a newly imported dog, have you encountered any of the following (select all that apply):

- Records in a foreign language
 - Incomplete or inappropriate course of medication
 - Incomplete or inappropriate course of vaccines
 - Suspected a falsified or fake document
 - None of the above
 - Other: _____
-

Q22a My clinical approach to a preliminary wellness appointment with an imported dog differs from my regular clinical approach to wellness appointments:

- Yes
 - No
 - Depends
-

Display This Question:

If My clinical approach to a preliminary wellness appointment with an imported dog differs from my r...
= Yes

Or My clinical approach to a preliminary wellness appointment with an imported dog differs from my r...
= Depends

Q22b Please describe the key differences of your clinical approach:

Section 4: Perceptions

Q23 I would consider the animal and human infectious disease risks of canine importation to be:

- High risk
- Medium risk
- Low risk

Q24 I would consider the animal welfare risks of canine importation to be:

- High risk
- Medium risk
- Low risk

Q25 I believe that clients are well-educated on the health risks associated with canine importation and take appropriate precautions.

- Strongly agree
 - Agree
 - Neither agree or disagree
 - Disagree
 - Strongly disagree
-

Q26 I believe that clients are well-educated on the animal welfare risks associated with canine importation and take appropriate precautions.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree or disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Section 5: Knowledge Needs

Q27 Please rank your level of comfort dealing with the following clinical activities in regard to imported dogs.

	Very comfortable	Somewhat comfortable	Neutral	Uncomfortable	Very uncomfortable
Discussing health and disease risks.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Determining canine infectious disease risks in other countries.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Screening and/or diagnosing foreign infectious diseases.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Treating and/or managing foreign infectious diseases.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Finding relevant information to support my practice.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Discussing transport related welfare risks.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q28 I would find the following information valuable (please check all that apply):

- Country or region-specific disease risks
- Best practices for screening and isolation
- Guide to diagnosis of foreign diseases of imported dogs
- Recommendations for treatment and prevention of key risks
- Measures to protect myself, my staff and clients from zoonoses
- Educational information for clients involved with international rescues
- Other: _____

End
