



Animal and Plant
Health Inspection
Service

Veterinary Services

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VETERINARY SERVICES MEMORANDUM NO. 800.69

TO: Veterinary Services Leadership Team
Directors, Center for Veterinary Biologics
Biologics Licensees, Permittees, and Applicants

FROM: Jack A. Shere
Deputy Administrator

SUBJECT: Guidelines for Autogenous Biologics

I. PURPOSE

This memorandum describes the present procedures and guidelines for interpretation of the requirements for autogenous biologics under the provisions of title 9, *Code of Federal Regulations* (9 CFR), section 113.113, 113.3(b)(8), and the administrative terminology in section 101.2; to inform licensees that autogenous isolates may be used for 24 months without requesting permission from the Center for Veterinary Biologics (CVB); and, to notify licensees that shipments to adjacent and nonadjacent herds will be permitted, provided the information cited in 9 CFR 113.113(a)(2) and (3) is on file with the licensee prior to the shipment of an autogenous product for use in a herd other than the herd of origin.

II. CANCELLATION

This memorandum cancels Veterinary Services (VS) Memorandum No. 800.69, dated August 30, 2002.

III. BACKGROUND

The Standard Requirement for Autogenous Biologics was published in the *Federal Register* on April 3, 2002, and became effective May 3, 2002. The Director, CVB-Inspection and Compliance (CVB-IC), is authorized to make all decisions relating to the discretionary authorities permitted the Administrator in 9 CFR 113.113, except 113.113(c)(2)(iv), which requires approval by the CVB-Policy, Evaluation, and Licensing (CVB-PEL).

IV. GUIDELINES

- A. Approval of Non-Veterinarian Specialist. Section 113.113 allows an autogenous biologic to be prepared for use by a person of specialized expertise other than a veterinarian in special situations if approved by the Administrator. The CVB-IC will use professional judgment in determining whether the person has the appropriate expertise to administer the product and deal with possible

medical problems associated with the use of an autogenous biologic. The licensee or permittee should communicate the following information to the CVB-IC when requesting approval to prepare an autogenous biologic for use by a non-veterinarian:

1. *Identification.* Name and qualifications (i.e., training, role in diagnosing the disease condition) of the non-veterinarian.
2. *Justification.* Description of the special situation (i.e., animal species involved, location, disease condition[s]).

B. Determination of Date of Isolation. Section 113.113(a)(4) states that the microorganism used for the production of an autogenous biologic may not be older than 15 months from the date of isolation.

1. *Date of Isolation.* The date of isolation will be considered as the date the organism was first identified as the causative agent of the disease, whether the identification was done by the attending veterinarian, approved non-veterinarian specialist, or by a diagnostic laboratory.
2. *Record of Date of Isolation.* The licensee or permittee should request the isolation date from the veterinarian or the approved non-veterinarian specialist ordering the autogenous product and maintain a record of such information available for review on APHIS inspection.

C. Cells Used for Production

1. *Primary Cells.* These should satisfy the requirements set forth in 9 CFR 113.51 and VS Memorandum No. 800.65 (if Specific Pathogen Free eggs are used). The appropriate citations should be included in the Outline of Production (Outline).
2. *Cell Lines.* These should satisfy the requirements prescribed in 9 CFR 113.52 and be identified in the filed Outline. Since cell lines can be used to produce products for multiple animal species, the Outline must list the types of products for which the cell line is approved.

D. Extension on Use of Autogenous Isolate. Section 113.113(a)(4) allows extended use of an isolate beyond 15 months from the date of isolation. Extensions to 24 months will be permitted without requesting permission from the CVB, provided the firm has the following information on file:

1. *Identification of the Microorganism.* Genus, species, and strain/serotype for bacteria; family and type for viruses. Some bacteria that should be serotyped include *Salmonella sp.*, *Erysipelothrix sp.*, *Actinobacillus*

pleuropneumoniae, *Clostridium perfringens*, *Pasteurella multocida*, *Streptococcus suis*, and *Escherichia coli*. Beta-hemolytic *Streptococcus sp.* should be further identified by their Lancefield group. Information on viruses should include the pertinent serotype/subtype/strain (e.g., Massachusetts [Mass] type of infectious bronchitis virus). For *C. perfringens*, confirmation and identification of the toxin produced shall be submitted to the CVB. See 9 CFR 113.113(c)(2)(iii) and 121.4(b).

2. *Assessment of Continued Involvement.* A current assessment of the continued involvement of the originally isolated microorganism(s) with disease in the herd, including diagnostic work done to support this assessment.
3. *Documentation of Satisfactory Performance.* Documentation to support that previous use of the autogenous biologic was beneficial. This may consist of showing that commercially licensed products do not provide equivalent protection.
4. *Assessment of Adverse Reactions.* Assessment of any and all adverse reactions associated with the use of the biologic.
5. *History of Product.* Date and place of isolation of microorganism(s) and date of harvest of first serial.
6. *Veterinarian/Client/Patient Relationship.* Licensees are responsible for certification of a valid veterinarian/client/patient relationship by the veterinarian requesting the product, as defined by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) policy, Principles of Veterinary Medical Ethics. For the approved non-veterinarian specialist, equivalent information shall be supplied for evaluation by the CVB.

Extensions beyond 24 months are evaluated by the CVB-PEL. In addition to the information listed above, immunogenicity data and a proposed potency test must be submitted.

- E. *Disposition of Outdated Isolates.* Microorganisms used to prepare autogenous biologics shall not be maintained in a licensed establishment beyond the time authorized for use in production. Outdated isolates must be handled in accordance with 9 CFR 114.15 and VS Memorandum No. 800.56. Records of the disposition of isolates must be maintained as provided in 9 CFR section 116.

F. Definition of "First Serial". A serial is considered a "first serial" if it is the first serial of autogenous biologic produced (i.e., prepared and eligible for shipment to the customer) from a new isolate(s), or if the first batch of autogenous culture produced from a new isolate is added to fractions produced from previously used isolates.

1. *Age of Isolation*. The serial must not include any culture that is over the age limit.
2. *Removal of Isolates*. Removing an isolate from a previous autogenous biologic formulation does not make the modified product a "first serial"; it is automatically a subsequent serial.

G. Reporting of Autogenous Biologics

1. *First Serials* - The first serial of an autogenous biologic produced from an unrestricted isolate (see VS Memorandum Nos. 800.85 and 800.103 and CVB Notice No. 02-04 for antigens not authorized for production under an autogenous license) may be released for shipment by the firm on the basis of satisfactory results of third day observations of tests, in accordance with 9 CFR 113.113 (c)(1). Its manufacture and testing may be subsequently reported in a summary format. In lieu of summary formats, these first serials may be reported through the National Centers for Animal Health (NCAH) Portal individually.

If submitting hard copy first serial summaries, separate summaries must be prepared for each product code. First serial summaries must be submitted to the CVB-IC after 25 serials of a given product code have been produced, or quarterly, whichever occurs first. Quarterly reports should be submitted no later than the 21st day of January, April, July, and October (fiscal year basis due to reports).

An example of an autogenous first serial summary is found in Appendix 1, but alternative formats also are acceptable. Summaries must include the following information:

- a. Header information
 - (1) Establishment license or permit number.
 - (2) Address of production facility.
 - (3) Product code (one product code per summary form).

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- b. For each serial prepared, include the following information in a horizontal (line item) format:
 - (1) Serial number. As shown on the final container.
 - (2) Isolate code(s). Enter each microbial fraction in the serial. If submitting through the NCAH Portal, enter the full name of the microorganism within the Remarks section if it is not found in the Agent listing. If the antigen is covered by VS Memorandum Nos. 800.85 or 800.103 or CVB Notice No. 02-04, the serial is not eligible for reporting via the summary format.
 - (3) Expiration date.
 - (4) Number of containers.
 - (5) Doses produced.
 - (6) Remarks:
 - (a) Destroyed serials. All serials are assumed to have been released for shipment unless otherwise indicated in the Remarks section. Enter the date destroyed and the reason for destruction.
 - (b) Retested serials. If the serial is retested by the firm, enter the reason for the retest. See 9 CFR 113.113(c)(1)(iii) and 9 CFR 116.5 for user-related actions and APHIS notification.
 - c. The bottom of the summary report must include signature, title, and date blocks for firm and APHIS representatives.
2. *Subsequent serials.* All serials, other than the first serial, made from unrestricted organisms.
- a. Veterinary Biologics Production and Test Report information (APHIS Form 2008) must be submitted to the CVB-IC for each subsequent serial of autogenous biologics. In lieu of the APHIS Form 2008, the information may be submitted through the NCAH Portal, if the manufacturer has the appropriate access. This information will be reviewed and processed as outlined in VS Memorandum No. 800.53. Subsequent serials are not to be shipped prior to approval by the CVB-IC.

3. Serials produced with restricted microorganisms

- a. To ensure that the use of autogenous veterinary biologics does not interfere with animal disease surveillance and/or control and eradication programs and does not pose other health risks, the use of certain microorganisms is restricted. See VS Memorandum Nos. 800.85 and 800.103 for a list of restricted organisms. Additional organism-specific guidance may be found in CVB Notices (e.g., CVB Notice No. 02-04 for influenza virus in turkeys).
- b. Autogenous biologics must not be produced from restricted organisms without approval from APHIS.
- c. All (first and subsequent) serials of autogenous biologics that contain restricted organisms are released by the standard procedure described in section IV.G.2.

H. Definition of Serial Size and Sample Submission/Retention. The number of final containers in a serial or sub serial is determined by the number of containers in inventory for release (i.e., available for sale). No samples of first serials of autogenous products, regardless of serial size, will be submitted to APHIS, unless requested. Samples of subsequent serials filled in >50 containers must be submitted to APHIS, in accordance with 9 CFR 113.3(b)(8).

1. *Number of Samples to Select.* Based on the number of containers produced, the licensee or permittee should allocate samples as follows:
 - a. For serials with ≤ 50 containers, the firm selects two government reserve samples only. This applies to first serials and subsequent serials.
 - b. For first serials with > 50 containers, the firm selects 10 government reserve samples only. After the autogenous summary has been returned to the manufacturer, two government reserve samples must be retained.
 - c. For subsequent serials with > 50 containers, 10 samples are selected; however, only two samples must be submitted to APHIS and two must be held as government reserve samples. The remaining six samples may be returned to inventory, based on VS Memorandum No. 800.59.
2. *Sampling Procedures.* Samples of all autogenous biologics must be selected in accordance with 9 CFR 113.3(b)(8). The licensee or permittee must hold reserve samples in accordance with 9 CFR 113.113(e)(4) and submit them to APHIS only when requested.

- I. Retesting of Autogenous Serials. First serials that were shipped after the third day of observation of purity test cultures and of safety test animals must be immediately recalled in the event of an inconclusive or unsatisfactory test result. The CVB-IC must be immediately notified in the event of a product recall. They may be retested to rule out technician error. The retest must be completed and satisfactory before the product can be released again.
- J. Shipment of Autogenous Products. The licensee or permittee is permitted to ship the autogenous serial to the veterinarian or approved non-veterinarian specialist for whom the product was prepared. With appropriate documentation, autogenous serials may be shipped directly to an owner if approved by the veterinarian or non-veterinarian specialist. Shipments to adjacent and nonadjacent herds will be permitted, provided the information cited in 9 CFR 113.113(a)(2) and (3) is on file with the licensee before an autogenous product is shipped for use in a herd other than the herd of origin. Records and documentation pertaining to shipments of autogenous biologics should be maintained for APHIS inspection.

V. SHORT GUIDE TO AUTOGENOUS BIOLOGICS

A. Limit on Use of an Isolate

1. 15 months from isolation, or
2. 12 months from harvest, whichever is shortest.
3. Extended use of isolates to 24 months will be permitted without requesting permission from the CVB, provided the licensee has the information prescribed in 9 CFR 113.113(a)(4) on file.

B. Disposition of Outdated Isolates. All outdated isolates shall be handled in accordance with 9 CFR 114.15 and VS Memorandum No. 800.56. Records of the disposition of isolates must be maintained as provided in 9 CFR 116.

C. Permissible Cells. Tested primary cells or approved cell lines may be used in production, as indicated in the Outline.

D. First Serial

1. Permissible to ship after three days of satisfactory testing.
2. No samples to APHIS needed.
3. Recall if tests are not satisfactory.

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4. Submit APHIS Summary Form to the CVB-IC, as listed in IV.G. of this memorandum. NCAH Portal submission is also acceptable.
5. Identification of the organism should be sufficient to determine it as the causative agent.

E. Second and Subsequent Serials

1. Must be tested under the general requirements in 9 CFR 113.100 or 113.200 to include purity, safety, and identification (genus and species of bacteria; family for the virus).
2. Complete all testing and submit APHIS Form 2008 information to the CVB-IC for release. Hard copy APHIS Form 2008 or NCAH Portal submission is acceptable.
3. Samples are submitted to APHIS unless the serial is <50 containers. Confirmatory testing by APHIS may occur. For serials of <50 containers, two reserve samples are held and may be requested by APHIS.
4. APHIS must release the serial BEFORE it is shipped.

F. All serials from restricted microorganisms

1. Production of autogenous biologics from organisms restricted in VS Memorandum No. 800.103 must be approved by the CVB.
2. APHIS Form 2008 for each serial (first and subsequent) of autogenous biologics produced from restricted microorganisms must be submitted to the CVB-IC, and the serial must be released before shipment. In lieu of the APHIS Form 2008, the information may be submitted through the NCAH Portal if employees at the manufacturer have received the appropriate access.

Appendix 1. Example of Autogenous Summary Format

Est. _____ Address: _____ Product Code _____

Serial No.	Isolate Code(s)	Exp. Date	Number of Containers	Doses Produced	Remarks

Firm signature	title	date
APHIS signature	title	date