



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

APHA Briefing Note 10/25

Reminder to Official Veterinarians (OVs) of risk of fraudulent laboratory results presented to support export certification

Date issued: 12 March 2025

Purpose

To remind Official Veterinarians (OVs) that laboratory reports to support certification of exports must not be altered in any way, and to be aware that some reports presented to them may be fraudulent.

Background

APHA have been sent a number of APHA laboratory reports recently for verification of authenticity. This is because certifying OVs or importing countries have suspected the reports to be fraudulent and therefore have been unable to trust the results for certification purposes.

In some instances, the reports have been altered by veterinary practices (e.g. to remove administrative information) but the animal's details and results are unchanged. Please be aware that laboratory reports to support certification of exports must not be altered in any way.

In other instances, the reports are fraudulent. They may use the same format and logo as real APHA laboratory reports, but they have not been produced by APHA and the information being reported is not valid.

Action

OVs should be aware that some laboratory reports they are presented with may be fraudulent. When in doubt, OVs must contact the laboratory detailed in the report to confirm its veracity.

Further Information

Contact details for verifying APHA lab reports: lab.services@apha.gov.uk