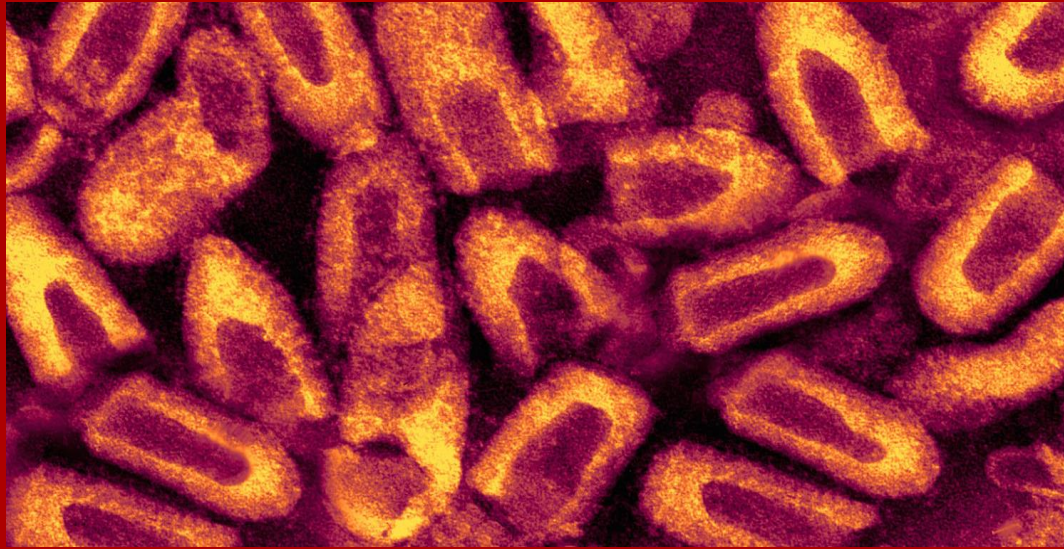




# **Rabies virus neutralizing antibodies in dogs**

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MPH Report  
August 2, 2016

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# Rabies

- Viral disease responsible for ~59,000 human deaths each year in more than 150 countries and territories
  - Dogs are the primary source
  - Vaccination is the main preventative control measure
    - In U.S., vaccination recommendations vary
      - NASPHV, state and local, manufacturer
    - Not 100% protective
    - WHO & OIE: Minimum post-vaccination antibody level:  $\geq 0.5$  IU/mL
    - Most animals achieve titer threshold 7-14 days post-vaccination
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# Pet Travel



- Proof of adequate rabies antibody titer
    - Fluorescent Antibody Virus Neutralization (FAVN)
  - **Consequences:** Turned away, quarantined, euthanized
  - Possible factors influencing failure of the FAVN
    - Biological
    - Vaccination schedules
    - Period from vaccination to blood draw for testing
-

# Field Experience

- Originally started in 2009 at KSU Rabies Laboratory
  - The database included 162,739 animals samples from 2006-2010 for the purpose of exportation
  - Narrowing the focus:
    - Dogs
    - Less than 1 year of age
    - Only 1 documented vaccination prior to titer test
    - $n = 8,367$
  - Study Criteria
    - Age at vaccination
    - Size and Breed
    - Sampling interval
-

# Criteria

## Age

- Three Groups:
  - <12 Weeks
  - 12-16 Weeks
  - >16 Weeks

## Size and Breed

- Purebred verse Mixed
- Toy, Small, Medium, Large, Giant

## Sampling Interval

- $\leq 3$  days
  - 4 -  $\leq 7$  days
  - 8 -  $\leq 15$  days
  - 16 -  $\leq 35$  days
  - 36 -  $\leq 77$  days
  - 78 -  $\leq 154$  days
  - 155 -  $\leq 224$  days
  - >224 days
-

# FAVN Test

## FAVN Test

- Minimum antibody level (OIE 2011, WHO 2013):  
 $\geq 0.5$  IU/ml = “Passing”
  - FAVN results divided into three groups
    - Low Responders:  $0 - <0.5$  IU/ml
    - Moderate Responders:  $\geq 0.5 - \leq 2.6$  IU/ml
    - High Responders:  $>2.6$  IU/ml
-

# Results

## Overall

- GMT 1.49 IU/mL (STD = 1.49)
- The number of dogs failed was 1,002 which was 11.7%
- The number of dogs Passed was 7,365 which was 85.9%
- Older dogs had lower proportion of failure and higher GMT

|             | % Failed                                                                                  | GMT (IU/mL)                                                                               | Standard Deviation |
|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| < 12 Weeks  | 16.3%                                                                                     | 1.27                                                                                      | 1.53               |
| 12-16 Weeks | 15.4%                                                                                     | 1.27                                                                                      | 1.45               |
| >16 Weeks   | 10.3%  | 1.6  | 1.5                |

# Less than 12 Weeks

Overall 16.3% Failures

- Sex, Breed, and Size- No influence
  - Sampling Interval
    - Highest GMT seen between 8-35 days
    - Greater proportion of High responders at 8-77 days
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|                               |                                                        | LOW RESPONDERS    | MODERATE RESPONDERS | HIGH RESPONDERS    | CMH             | Geometric Mean Titer | LN ANOVA        |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| Age at vaccination: <12 Weeks | <b>TOTAL</b>                                           | <b>49 (16.3%)</b> | <b>124 (41.1%)</b>  | <b>128 (42.5%)</b> |                 | <b>1.27</b>          |                 |
|                               | <b>Sex <sup>a</sup></b>                                |                   |                     |                    | <b>0.51</b>     |                      | <b>0.93</b>     |
|                               | Male                                                   | 25 (15.9%)        | 77 (42.6%)          | 65 (41.4%)         |                 | 1.26                 |                 |
|                               | Female                                                 | 24 (17.2%)        | 56 (40.2%)          | 59 (42.45%)        |                 | 1.25                 |                 |
|                               | Unspecified                                            | 0                 | 1 (20%)             | 4 (80%)            |                 | 1.72                 |                 |
|                               | <b>Time from Vaccine Administration to Titer Check</b> |                   |                     |                    | <b>&lt;0.01</b> |                      | <b>&lt;0.01</b> |
|                               | < 3 days                                               | 0                 | 0                   | 0                  |                 | 0                    |                 |
|                               | 4 to < 7 days                                          | 1 (25%)           | 1 (25%)             | 2 (50%)            |                 | 1.32                 |                 |
|                               | 8 to < 15 days                                         | 0                 | 0                   | 4 (100%)           |                 | 3.45                 |                 |
|                               | 16 to < 35 days                                        | 5 (6.1%)          | 29 (35.8%)          | 47 (58%)           |                 | 1.99                 |                 |
|                               | 36 to < 77 days                                        | 15 (21.1%)        | 26 (36.6%)          | 30 (42.2%)         |                 | 1.15                 |                 |
|                               | 78 to < 154 days                                       | 19 (25%)          | 37 (48.6%)          | 20 (26.3%)         |                 | 0.77                 |                 |
|                               | 155 to < 224 days                                      | 5 (15.6%)         | 14 (43.8%)          | 13 (40.6%)         |                 | 1.18                 |                 |
|                               | > 225 days                                             | 4 (12.1%)         | 17 (51.5)           | 12 (36.3%)         |                 | 1.49                 |                 |
|                               | <b>Type of Dog</b>                                     |                   |                     |                    | <b>0.39</b>     |                      | <b>0.95</b>     |
|                               | Mixed Breed                                            | 10 (20.4%)        | 17 (34.6%)          | 22 (44.9%)         |                 | 1.27                 |                 |
|                               | Pure Breed                                             | 32 (14.4%)        | 97 (44.2%)          | 90 (41.1%)         |                 | 1.29                 |                 |
|                               | <b>Dog Size</b>                                        |                   |                     |                    | <b>0.77</b>     |                      | <b>0.46</b>     |
|                               | Toy                                                    | 4 (8%)            | 25 (50%)            | 21 (42%)           |                 | 1.73                 |                 |
|                               | Small                                                  | 9 (15.8%)         | 23 (40.4%)          | 25 (43.9%)         |                 | 1.41                 |                 |
|                               | Medium                                                 | 7 (18.4%)         | 15 (29.5%)          | 16 (42.1%)         |                 | 1.18                 |                 |
|                               | Large                                                  | 11 (16.9%)        | 30 (46.2%)          | 24 (36.9%)         |                 | 1.10                 |                 |
|                               | Giant                                                  | 1 (14.3%)         | 3 (42.9%)           | 3 (42.9%)          |                 | 0.83                 |                 |
|                               | Unspecified                                            | 17 (20.2%)        | 28 (33.3%)          | 39 (46.4%)         |                 | 1.13                 |                 |

# 12-16 Weeks

Overall 15.4% Failures

- Sex and Breed- No Influence
  - Size- Large breed dogs
    - Highest failure (21%) compared to 11.5-16.7%
    - Lowest GMT (1.02) compared to 1.25-1.47
  - Sampling Interval
    - Highest Failure <7 days and >78 days
    - Highest Titer 8-35 days
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|                                 |                                                        | LOW RESPONDERS     | MODERATE RESPONDERS  | HIGH RESPONDERS    | CMH             | Geometric Mean Titer | LN ANOVA        |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| Age at vaccination: 12-16 Weeks | <b>TOTAL</b>                                           | <b>355 (15.4%)</b> | <b>1,081 (47.1%)</b> | <b>855 (37.3%)</b> |                 | <b>1.27</b>          |                 |
|                                 | <b>Sex</b>                                             |                    |                      |                    | <b>0.10</b>     |                      | <b>0.25</b>     |
|                                 | Male                                                   | 189 (16.7%)        | 530 (47%)            | 408 (36.2%)        |                 | 1.23                 |                 |
|                                 | Female                                                 | 164 (14.2%)        | 542 (47%)            | 445 (38.6%)        |                 | 1.30                 |                 |
|                                 | Unspecified                                            | 2 (15.3%)          | 9 (69.2%)            | 2 (15.3%)          |                 | 0.68                 |                 |
|                                 | <b>Time from Vaccine Administration to Titer Check</b> |                    |                      |                    | <b>&lt;0.01</b> |                      | <b>&lt;0.01</b> |
|                                 | ≤ 3 days                                               | 7 (100%)           | 0                    | 0                  |                 | 0.02                 |                 |
|                                 | 4 to < 7 days                                          | 1 (25%)            | 1 (25%)              | 2 (50%)            |                 | 0.42                 |                 |
|                                 | 8 to < 15 days                                         | 5 (8.4%)           | 27 (45.7%)           | 27 (45.7%)         |                 | 1.52                 |                 |
|                                 | 16 to < 35 days                                        | 46 (5.5%)          | 380 (45.4%)          | 410 (49.0%)        |                 | 1.93                 |                 |
|                                 | 36 to < 77 days                                        | 65 (12.9%)         | 248 (49.3%)          | 190 (37.7%)        |                 | 1.35                 |                 |
|                                 | 78 to < 154 days                                       | 124 (23.7%)        | 259 (49.5%)          | 140 (26.7%)        |                 | 0.66                 |                 |
|                                 | 155 to < 224 days                                      | 65 (27.9%)         | 113 (48.5%)          | 55 (23.6%)         |                 | 0.65                 |                 |
|                                 | > 225 days                                             | 42 (33.3%)         | 53 (42%)             | 31 (24.6%)         |                 | 0.69                 |                 |
|                                 | <b>Type of Dog</b>                                     |                    |                      |                    | <b>0.19</b>     |                      | <b>0.34</b>     |
|                                 | Mixed Breed                                            | 34 (13.3%)         | 133 (52.1%)          | 88 (34.5%)         |                 | 1.35                 |                 |
|                                 | Pure Breed                                             | 298 (16.2%)        | 853 (46.3%)          | 688 (37.4%)        |                 | 1.24                 |                 |
|                                 | <b>Dog Size</b>                                        |                    |                      |                    | <b>&lt;0.01</b> |                      | <b>&lt;0.01</b> |
|                                 | Toy                                                    | 52 (12.2%)         | 199 (46.7%)          | 175 (41.1%)        |                 | 1.47                 |                 |
|                                 | Small                                                  | 74 (14.6%)         | 236 (46.5%)          | 198 (39%)          |                 | 1.37                 |                 |
|                                 | Medium                                                 | 44 (16.7%)         | 118 (44.9%)          | 101 (38.4%)        |                 | 1.25                 |                 |
|                                 | Large                                                  | 112 (21%)          | 247 (46.3%)          | 175 (32.8%)        |                 | 1.02                 |                 |
|                                 | Giant                                                  | 11 (11.5%)         | 49 (51%)             | 36 (37.5%)         |                 | 1.44                 |                 |
|                                 | Unspecified                                            | 62 (13.4%)         | 232 (50%)            | 170 (36.6%)        |                 | 1.25                 |                 |

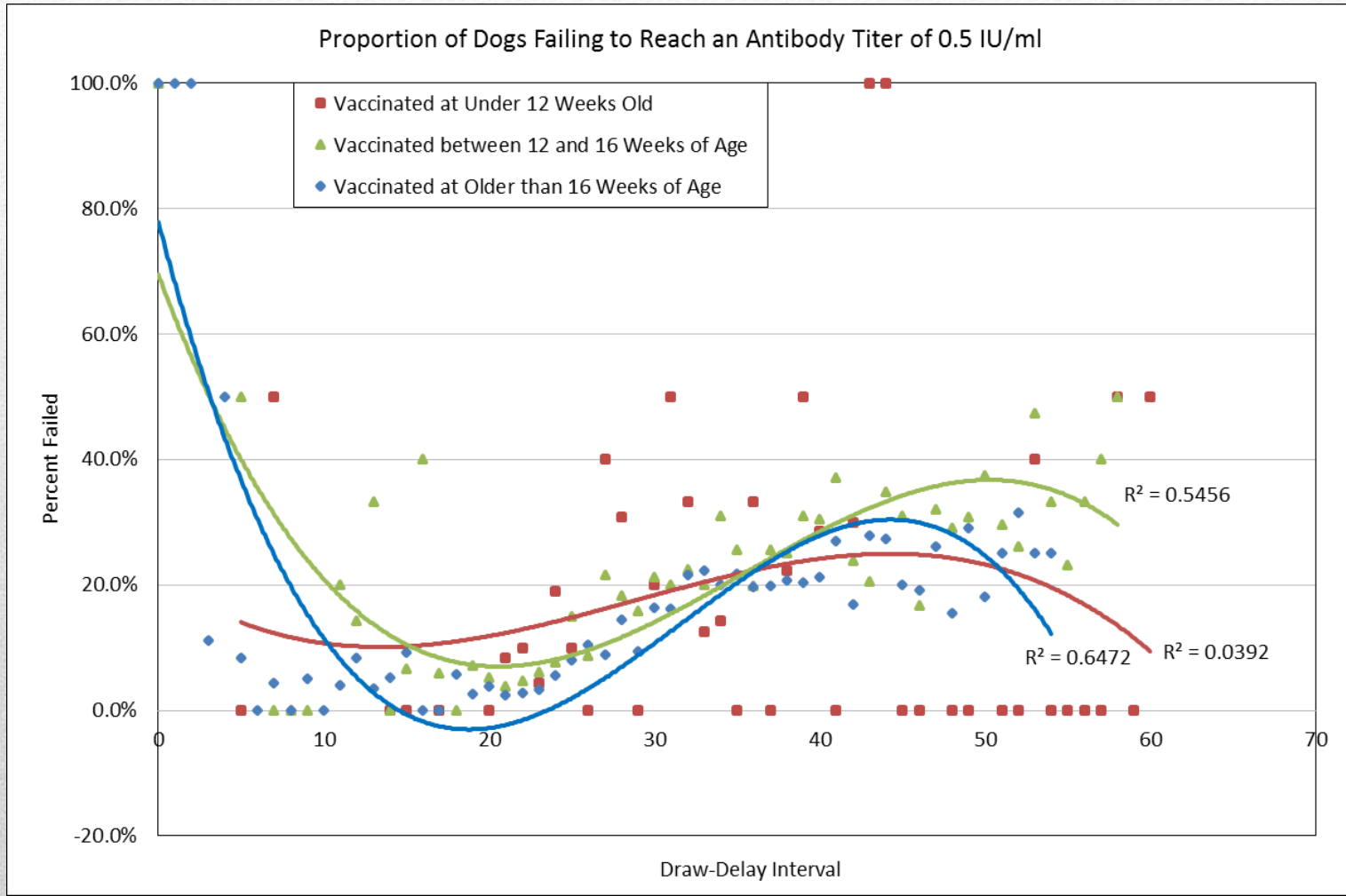
# Greater than 16 Weeks

Overall 10.3% Failure

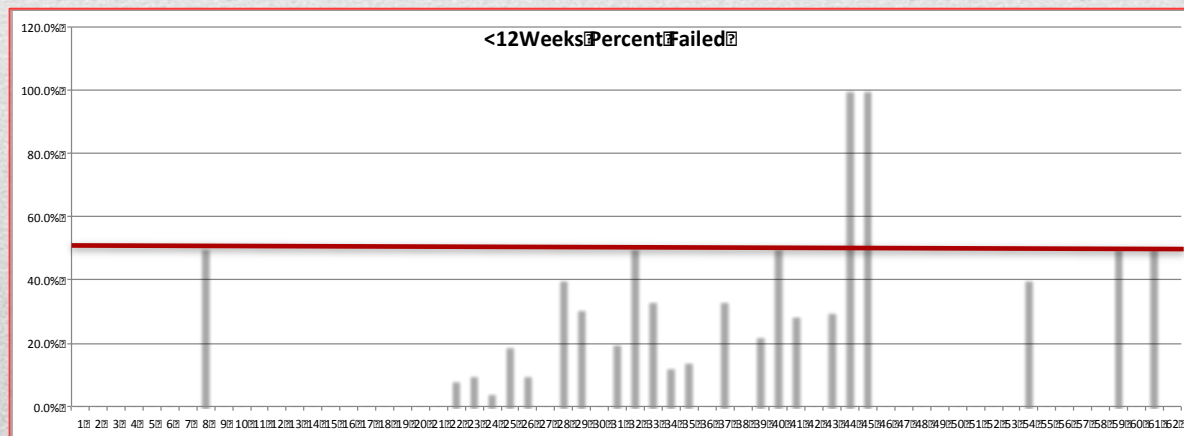
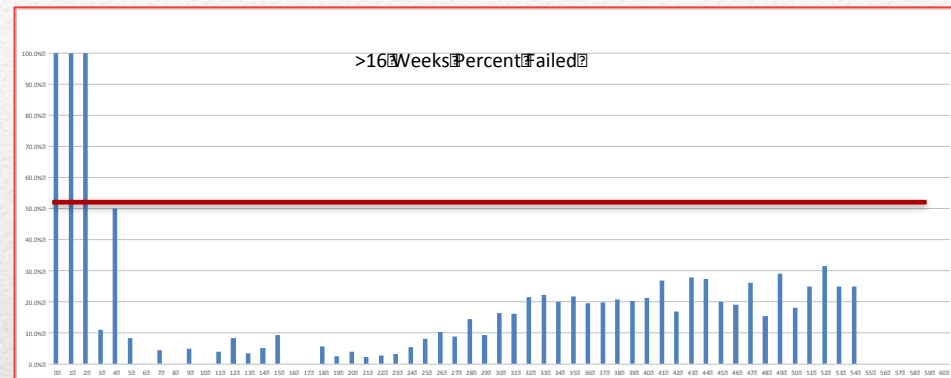
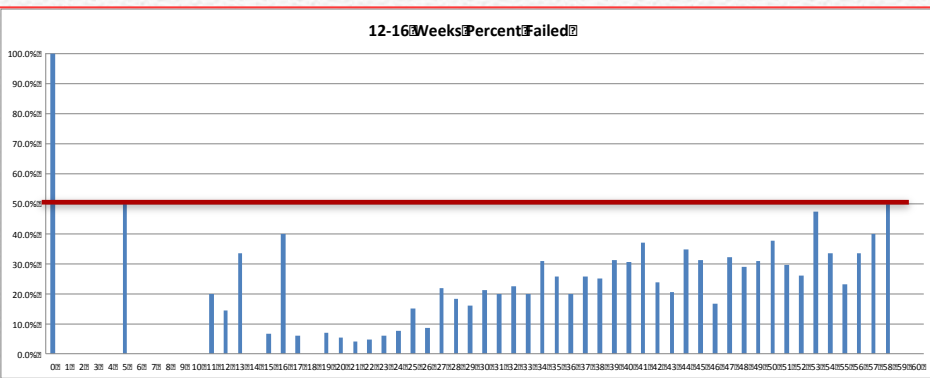
- Sex- No influence
  - Breed:
    - Mix Breed Higher GMT (1.77 vs 1.57)
    - Mix Breed Lower Failure Rate (8% vs 10.8%)
  - Size:
    - Toy, Small, and Medium higher GMT than Large and Giant.
  - Sampling Interval
    - Highest GMT between 8-36 days
    - Highest Failure at <3 days and >78 days
-

|                               |                                                        | LOW RESPONDERS     | MODERATE RESPONDERS  | HIGH RESPONDERS      | CMH             | Geometric Mean Titer | LN ANOVA        |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| Age at vaccination: >16 Weeks | <b>TOTAL</b>                                           | <b>598 (10.3%)</b> | <b>2,453 (42.4%)</b> | <b>2,724 (47.1%)</b> |                 | <b>1.60</b>          |                 |
|                               | <b>Sex</b>                                             |                    |                      |                      | <b>0.47</b>     |                      | <b>0.44</b>     |
|                               | Male                                                   | 291 (9.8%)         | 1263 (42.9%)         | 1386 (47.1%)         |                 | 1.62                 |                 |
|                               | Female                                                 | 301 (10.8%)        | 1161 (41.7%)         | 1316 (46.3%)         |                 | 1.58                 |                 |
|                               | Unspecified                                            | 6 (8.9%)           | 29 (51.7%)           | 22 (39.2%)           |                 | 1.34                 |                 |
|                               | <b>Time from Vaccine Administration to Titer Check</b> |                    |                      |                      | <b>&lt;0.01</b> |                      | <b>&lt;0.01</b> |
|                               | < 3 days                                               | 40 (100%)          | 0                    | 0                    |                 | 0.05                 |                 |
|                               | 4 to < 7 days                                          | 11 (8.5%)          | 35 (37.2%)           | 51 (54.2%)           |                 | 1.65                 |                 |
|                               | 8 to < 15 days                                         | 19 (5.25%)         | 116 (32.0%)          | 227 (62.7%)          |                 | 2.22                 |                 |
|                               | 16 to < 35 days                                        | 66 (2.9%)          | 826 (36.8%)          | 1351 (60.2%)         |                 | 2.30                 |                 |
|                               | 36 to < 77 days                                        | 118 (68.5%)        | 655 (47%)            | 618 (44.4%)          |                 | 1.63                 |                 |
|                               | 78 to < 154 days                                       | 214 (19.7%)        | 544 (50.2%)          | 324 (29.9%)          |                 | 1.04                 |                 |
|                               | 155 to < 224 days                                      | 113 (23.2%)        | 240 (49.4%)          | 132 (27.2%)          |                 | 0.84                 |                 |
|                               | > 225 days                                             | 19 (24.6%)         | 37 (48%)             | 21 (27.2%)           |                 | 0.76                 |                 |
|                               | <b>Type of Dog</b>                                     |                    |                      |                      | <b>&lt;0.01</b> |                      | <b>&lt;0.01</b> |
|                               | Mixed Breed                                            | 66 (8%)            | 343 (41.8%)          | 410 (50%)            |                 | 1.77                 |                 |
|                               | Pure Breed                                             | 498 (10.8%)        | 1944 (42.4%)         | 2138 (46.6%)         |                 | 1.57                 |                 |
|                               | <b>Dog Size</b>                                        |                    |                      |                      | <b>&lt;0.01</b> |                      | <b>&lt;0.01</b> |
|                               | Toy                                                    | 124 (9.2%)         | 563 (41.7%)          | 664 (49.1%)          |                 | 1.67                 |                 |
|                               | Small                                                  | 142 (10.6%)        | 577 (43.1%)          | 620 (46.3%)          |                 | 1.60                 |                 |
|                               | Medium                                                 | 56 (10%)           | 241 (43.2%)          | 261 (46.8%)          |                 | 1.71                 |                 |
|                               | Large                                                  | 144 (12.9%)        | 480 (42.9%)          | 495 (44.2%)          |                 | 1.42                 |                 |
|                               | Giant                                                  | 29 (14.9%)         | 74 (37.9%)           | 92 (47.2%)           |                 | 1.44                 |                 |
|                               | Unspecified                                            | 102 (8.4%)         | 518 (42.7%)          | 592 (48.8%)          |                 | 1.61                 |                 |

# Proportion Failed



# Percent Failed



# Summary

## Breed and/or size

- May have an influence but minimal at this time.

## Age

- Dogs vaccinated later than 16 weeks of age had higher GMT
- Early vaccination not associated with higher failure or lower GMT compared to dogs vaccinated on-time.

## Sampling Interval

- Too early or too late had a higher failure rate.
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# Implications

## Pet Travel

- Veterinarians need to consider factors when preparing pets for travel to reduce test failure and complications at ports
  - Optimal time for sample collection is ~ 8-36 days
    - Cliquet 2003 <60 days
    - Mansfield 2004 <21 days
    - Kennedy 2007 20-50 days
    - Jakel 2008 <120 days
  - ❖ Booster vaccination may minimize risk of failure
  - Further research in the effect of maternal antibodies
    - Vaccination at a young age
      - Variable response at longer intervals
      - Initial high responders
-