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BIRMINGHAM

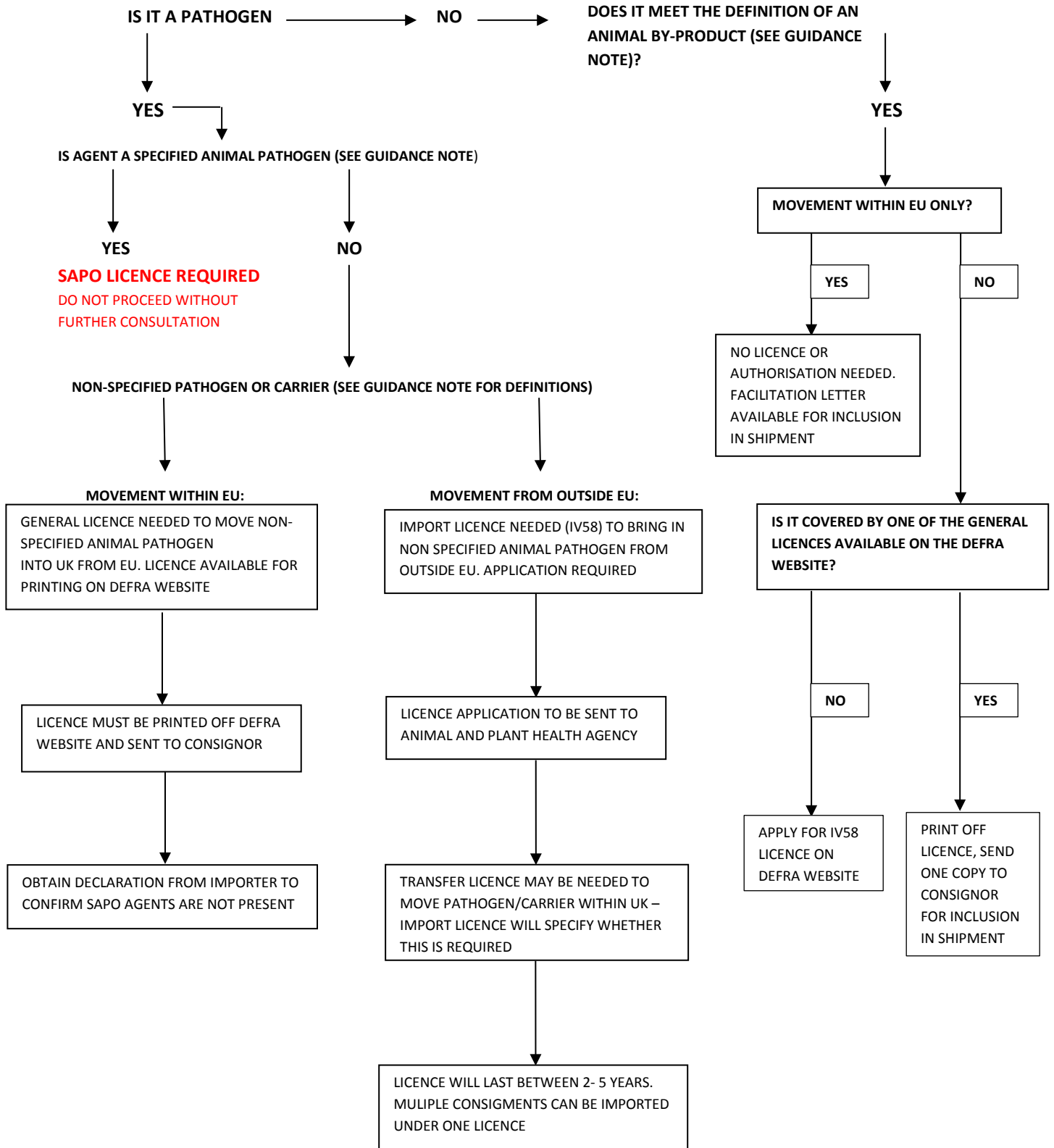
Health and Safety Guidance

Imports of Animal Pathogens and Animal By-Products

GUIDANCE/1/IAPABB/15

Anyone wishing to import animal pathogens or animal by-products should be aware of the need for import licences. General licences can be obtained from the Defra website, but some licences may need to be applied for in advance. This guidance provides information on when and how to apply for the different types of licences.

IMPORTS OF ANIMAL PATHOGENS AND ANIMAL BY-PRODUCTS



IMPORTS OF ANIMAL PATHOGENS AND ANIMAL BY-PRODUCTS: GUIDANCE AND WEBLINKS

Definitions under the Specified Animal Pathogen Order

Under SAPO, a “specified animal pathogen” means an animal pathogen listed in the schedule. This will include:

1. Intact pathogens
2. Pathogens which have been attenuated or genetically modified by any means; and
3. Any nucleic acid derived from an animal pathogen listed in the SAPO Schedule which could produce that pathogen when introduced into a biological system in which the nucleic acid is capable of replicating.

A “carrier” means any living creature except man which may carry or transmit a specified animal pathogen or the tissue, cell culture, body fluid, excreta, carcass or part of a carcass of such creature by or by means of which a specified animal pathogen may be transmitted.

The current list of specified animal pathogens can be found at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/400360/animal-pathogens-guidance-controls.pdf

There are very strict controls on the import and use of SAPO agents and guidance must be sought from the Health and Safety Unit well in advance of work starting.

Non-specified animal pathogens and carriers

An animal pathogen is either:

- A collection or culture of organisms which may cause disease in animals or poultry
- A combined form or any derivative of such a collection of culture of organisms

A carrier is any non-human living creature which can carry or transmit an animal pathogen. A carrier can also be the tissue, cell culture, body fluid, faeces, carcass, or carcass part of any such creature, if it can carry or transmit pathogens

You must have a **general licence** to move non-specified pathogens or carriers into the UK from another EU state. This is available on the Defra website and can be printed off once completed.

You must have an **import licence** (IV58) to move non-specified animal pathogens or carriers into the UK from a non-EU state.

Licences can be obtained from:

<https://www.gov.uk/bringing-non-specified-animal-pathogens-or-carriers-into-the-uk#licenses-you-must-have>

Animal by-products

An animal product or animal by-product is defined as:

“entire bodies or parts of animals, products of animal origin or other products obtained from animals that are not intended for human consumption”

and refers to anything originating or made (whether in whole or in part) from a living or dead animal that is not intended for human consumption.

This includes:

- Tissue or cell cultures
- Antibodies or cell cultures in medium containing BSA, FCS
- Bodily fluids (including blood) or fractions thereof
- Feathers/hides
- Manure
- Catering waste

Research samples containing ABPs entering England from another EU member state do not require any licence or authorisations. There are two facilitation letters that confirm no licences are needed, which can be attached to a consignment. These facilitation letters can be printed from the following link.

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/animal-trade/imports-non-eu/general-licences/>

Some ABPs can be imported from outside the EU under a general licence, available on the Defra website:

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/animal-trade/imports-non-eu/general-licences/>

Where an applicable general licence cannot be found for the shipment in question an IV58 licence will need to be applied for:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/animal-products-and-pathogens-application-for-import-licence>

EXPORTS

Within EU:

If you're sending live animals or animal products to non-EU countries, it's considered exporting. If you're sending them to other EU countries, or Liechtenstein, Iceland, Norway, and Switzerland, it's considered [EU trade](#). The movement of some live animals within the EU may need an Intra Trade Animal Health Certificate (this mainly applies to the movement of livestock, poultry, cats, dogs, rabbits etc).

Most ABPs (animal products not intended for human consumption, e.g. carcasses or blood) shipped within the EU must be accompanied by a commercial document, which contains details of the contents of the consignment, plus the name of the person who sent it and the person it is being sent to.

Although most of these requirements do not apply to materials shipped between Universities and other research establishments it is worth consulting the Animal and Plant Health Agency if you are unsure whether you need a commercial document. [Contact the APHA](#)

Outside EU:

Before sending animals or animal products outside the EU, you should talk to the importer who's receiving your goods to find out:

- whether you need an import permit
- if your consignment must meet any other requirements in the destination country

In some cases an Export Health Certificate (EHC) may be required, but these mostly cover the movement of live animals, birds/poultry, meat and dairy products and other non-research material. **There are exceptions**, however, and the list should be consulted and the Animal and Plant Health Agency (Exports) should be contacted if there is any doubt.