

**MSD Animal Health**  
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17 January 2024

Dear Veterinarian,

### **Re: Feline Vaccine Supply Update**

As you are no doubt aware, there has been an unprecedented shortage of feline vaccines in the Australian market for some months. We acknowledge this has been a difficult time for clinic staff and cat owners. MSD Animal Health, through its state-of-the-art manufacturing facility based in Bendigo Australia, has worked tirelessly to improve continuity of supply for Australian veterinary clinics with the knowledge that your usual brand of feline vaccine may be experiencing a supply shortage.

Being a locally manufactured vaccine, MSD Animal Health has been able to expedite the availability of **Nobivac FLEX Tricat (F3)** to the Australian market. MSD Animal Health are pleased to announce that there is now supply of Nobivac FLEX Tricat (F3) and deliveries to veterinary wholesalers commenced from **mid January 2024**.

We anticipate there will be a further release of Nobivac FLEX Tricat (F3) to wholesalers in **late January 2024** and another re-supply in **late February 2024**. Please be assured that MSD Animal Health are doing everything possible to meet the ongoing demand for feline vaccines in Australia.

Nobivac FLEX Tricat (F3) is a modified live virus (attenuated) vaccine, immunising cats against feline herpesvirus, feline calicivirus and feline panleucopaenia (FPV). A primary course consists of two doses, 3-4 weeks apart, with the final dose being administered at 12 weeks of age or older. **If a cat is current with F3 vaccination, regardless of brand, only a single dose of Nobivac FLEX Tricat (F3) is required** to provide 12 months' protection against feline herpesvirus and feline calicivirus, and 3 years' protection against feline panleucopaenia. Nobivac FLEX Tricat (F3) can be administered annually, or as part of a triennial regime\*.

It is important to note that modified-live virus vaccines are recommended by global advisory groups (e.g. WSAVA Vaccination Guidelines Group<sup>1</sup>) due to their ability to quickly induce a robust immune response with a lower incidence of adverse effects when compared to killed (inactivated) vaccines<sup>2</sup>, which contain an adjuvant.

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**“Non-adjuvanted vaccines should be administered to cats wherever possible.” (WSAVA Vaccination Guidelines, 2016.)**

We understand that this may be the first time some veterinarians have used modified-live vaccines in cats and want to remind veterinarians that there are no contraindications to administering Nobivac FLEX Tricat (F3) to clinically well cats over 8 weeks of age\*. Nobivac FLEX Tricat (F3) is the only modified-live feline core vaccine available in Australia that has the label claim to significantly reduce shedding caused by virulent FPV challenge in maternal antibody-positive kittens. Nobivac FLEX Tricat (F3) also offers peace of mind with the MSD Vaccine Guarantee for the FPV antigen†.

If you would like further information on transitioning patients to Nobivac vaccines, please phone 1800 033 461 to speak with one of our Technical Services Veterinarians or contact your MSD Animal Health Territory Sales Manager.

We sincerely thank you for your ongoing support and look forward to working closely with you to provide gold-standard protection for your feline and canine patients.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kate Taylor".

**Kate Taylor**

Brand Manager, Companion Animal  
MSD Animal Health

1. Day MJ *et al.* WSAVA Guidelines for the vaccination of dogs and cats. *Journal of Small Animal Practice*. 2016;57:E1-E45.
2. O'Brien C. Feline Vaccinations - a review. *The Veterinarian* (2007) March: 25-27.

\* Safety has not been tested in pregnant or lactating queens. Refer to label.

† Refer to Nobivac Canine and Feline Vaccine Range detailer for more information.