

**Decision**

Research material

**Import permit**

Animal Health and Welfare Department

Animal Health and Medication Unit

Pvm/Datum/Date

3.3.2026

Dnro/Dnr/DNo

1979/04.01.06.00/2026

Department of Clinical and Medical Genetics  
University of Helsinki/Faculty of Medicine/Lohi Group  
Hannes Lohi  
Haartmaninkatu 8  
00290 Helsinki  
FINLAND

Reference: Application dated 25.2.2026

**Import permit for blood, hair, cheek swab, cell and tissue samples from household pets for research purposes from countries outside EU****Applicant**

Department of Clinical and Medical Genetics /University of Helsinki/Faculty of Medicine/Lohi Group. Tel. + 358 294125085, e-mail: [hannes.lohi@helsinki.fi](mailto:hannes.lohi@helsinki.fi).

**Application**

Lohi Group from University of Helsinki has applied for a permit to import blood, hair, cheek swab, cell and tissue samples for research purposes from countries outside EU as described in the application.

**By-product category**

Category 3 by-products

**Decision**

The samples are imported for specific research purposes and are exempt from veterinary border control in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2019/2122 article 4

The Animal Health and Welfare Department of the Finnish Food Authority will permit the import on the following conditions:

**Conditions**

1. Each consignment must be accompanied by a commercial document with the consignor's contact information stating that its contents correspond to those presented in the application. The commercial document must include
  - a) a description of the product and the animal species from which it originates;
  - b) what category of by-product is concerned;
  - c) its quantity;
  - d) the origin of the material and from whence it has been sent;
  - e) the sender's name and address;
  - f) the recipient's name and address

**Ruokavirasto**

PL 100, 00027 RUOKAVIRASTO  
Puh. 029 530 0400 (vaihde)  
[ruokavirasto.fi](http://ruokavirasto.fi)  
Y-tunnus: 2911686-7

**Livsmedelsverket**

PB 100, 00027 LIVSMEDELSVERKET  
Tfn 029 530 0400 (växel)  
[livsmedelsverket.fi](http://livsmedelsverket.fi)  
FO-nummer: 2911686-7

**Finnish Food Authority**

P.O. Box 100, FI-00027 FINNISH FOOD AUTHORITY, FINLAND  
Tel. +358 29 530 0400 (switchboard)  
[foodauthority.fi](http://foodauthority.fi)  
Business ID: 2911686-7

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A copy of this import permit shall also be attached.

2. If the country of entry into the EU is Finland, this permit and the above documents must be presented to the Finnish Customs.

If the first country of entry is another EU country, the consignment and documents must be presented at a veterinary Border Control Post of a country in question:

[https://food.ec.europa.eu/animals/veterinary-border-control/contact-details-bcps-veterinary\\_en](https://food.ec.europa.eu/animals/veterinary-border-control/contact-details-bcps-veterinary_en)

3. The research material must be packed safely and securely and delivered directly to Department of Clinical and Medical Genetics / University of Helsinki/Faculty of Medicine/Lohi Group, Haartmaninkatu 8, 00290 Helsinki, FINLAND, recipient Hannes Lohi. Registration No. FI-ABP-OTH-3-2015.
4. The research material must be clearly marked with the by –product category and labelled **‘for research and diagnostic purposes’** for the period of transport and storage. The label must be attached to the packaging, container or vehicle.
5. The importer must notify the local supervising official veterinarian when the research material arrives at its destination address, [anna.meller@helsinki.fi](mailto:anna.meller@helsinki.fi)
6. The research material is to be used solely for the research purposes outlined in the application and must not be conveyed to others.
7. Users that handle research and diagnostic samples shall take all necessary measures to avoid the spreading of diseases communicable to humans or animals during the handling of the materials under their control, in particular by way of the application of **good laboratory practice**.
8. The research material and any waste thereof shall be destroyed in a manner that does not pose any danger to human or animal health. The material can be either
  - a) incinerated as waste, or
  - b) undergo high pressure sterilization and then disposed of according to Regulation 1069/2009/EU article 12, 13 or 14.
9. Users that handle research and diagnostic samples shall keep a register of consignments of such samples. The register shall include the information in the commercial document referred to in point 1 and the date and method of disposal of the samples and of any derived products. The register has to be given to Finnish Food Authority on request.

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**Grounds for decision**

The import does not pose the risk of spreading animal diseases if carried out according to the conditions set out in this decision.

**Period of validity**

This import permit is valid until 3.3.2028. In case of a change in legislation, a new import permit must be applied for.

In cases where legislative changes have an impact on the requirements in this import permit, a new import permit must be applied for.

This import permit shall be revoked with immediate effect if the applicant does not follow the conditions described in this decision or otherwise violates the provisions or regulations set out. The import permit can also be revoked or the conditions changed with immediate effect in case of a substantial change in the animal disease situation of the country of origin or import, or if it is apparent due to some other reason that the import poses an animal disease risk, or if the import poses a risk to human health.

The importer is obligated to duly notify Finnish Food Authority of any changes in their activities that may affect this permit.

**Legislative bases**

REGULATION (EU) 2017/625 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on official controls and other official activities performed to ensure the application of food and feed law, rules on animal health and welfare, plant health and plant protection products, amending Regulations (EC) No 999/2001, (EC) No 396/2005, (EC) No 1069/2009, (EC) No 1107/2009, (EU) No 1151/2012, (EU) No 652/2014, (EU) 2016/429 and (EU) 2016/2031 of the European Parliament and of the Council, Council Regulations (EC) No 1/2005 and (EC) No 1099/2009 and Council Directives 98/58/EC, 1999/74/EC, 2007/43/EC, 2008/119/EC and 2008/120/EC, and repealing Regulations (EC) No 854/2004 and (EC) No 882/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council, Council Directives 89/608/EEC, 89/662/EEC, 90/425/EEC, 91/496/EEC, 96/23/EC, 96/93/EC and 97/78/EC and Council Decision 92/438/EEC (Official Controls Regulation)

Act on import controls for animals and certain goods 1277/2019

COMMISSION DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) 2019/2122 supplementing Regulation (EU) 2017/625 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards certain categories of animals and goods exempted from official controls at border control posts, specific controls on passengers' personal luggage and on small consignments of goods sent to

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natural persons which are not intended to be placed on the market and amending Commission Regulation (EU) No 142/2011

REGULATION (EC) No 1069/2009 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL laying down health rules as regards animal by-products and derived products not intended for human consumption and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1774/2002 (Animal by-products Regulation), especially article 17

COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) No 142/2011 implementing Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down health rules as regards animal by-products and derived products not intended for human consumption and implementing Council Directive 97/78/EC as regards certain samples and items exempt from veterinary checks at the border under, especially article 28 and Annex VI

The Animal By-Product Act 517/2015, especially 12 §, 34 §, 35 §

**Appeals**

An appeal concerning this decision may be lodged with the Administrative Court, see instructions attached.

**Fee**

172 € MMMa 1093/2025 (8.15)

**Appendices**

Application + appendices

Instructions for Filling an Appeal

Instructions for Claim of Rectification Regarding Fee

**Copies**

Finnish Food Authority:

- Veterinary Border Control and Intra-Union Trade Section
  - Registry office / [kirjaamo@ruokavirasto.fi](mailto:kirjaamo@ruokavirasto.fi)
  - Border Control Post in Helsinki-Vantaa Airport / [lentoasema@ruokavirasto.fi](mailto:lentoasema@ruokavirasto.fi)
  - Border Control Post in Port / [rajatarkastus@ruokavirasto.fi](mailto:rajatarkastus@ruokavirasto.fi)
- Supervising municipal veterinarian / [anna.meller@helsinki.fi](mailto:anna.meller@helsinki.fi)

Head of Section

Kitty Schulman

Border veterinarian

Elina Viitasaari



**RUOKAVIRASTO**

Livsmedelsverket • Finnish Food Authority

Tämä asiakirja on laadittu ja allekirjoitettu sähköisesti.  
Dokumentet har satts upp och undertecknats elektroniskt.  
This document has been digitally prepared and signed.

Jaostopäällikkö KITTY SCHULMAN  
Hyväksytty 3.3.2026

Rajaeläinlääkäri ELINA VIITASAARI  
Esitelty 3.3.2026

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