



# Notification of a conditional usage permit for Covid-19 subunit vaccine (Furcovac) for minks

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Eero Rautiainen, Senior Veterinary Officer

Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Finland



# Notification of the Commission

- Finnish Food Authority has granted on 22.9.2021 a conditional usage permit for covid-19 subunit vaccine for minks for 46.500 vaccine doses (exp.d. 28.12.2021) to be used nationally
- The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of Finland notified the Commission on the conditional usage permit 23.9.2021
  - The notification was based on regulation (EU) 2019/6 of the European Parliament and of the council on veterinary medicinal products and repealing Directive 2001/82/EC, which will apply from 28 January 2022.



# Grounds for applying for a usage permit and the granting of a permit

- Initiative for the vaccine development came from Finnish Fur Breeders' Association FIFUR and Helsinki University. The aim of the applicant is to protect breeding animals from SARS-CoV-19 infection. The process was based on the Medicines Act (395/1987), because so far no covid-19 vaccine for minks has a marketing authorisation in EU countries. Limited data requirements for quality, safety and efficacy were agreed.



# Conditions of the present usage permit

- The applicant needs to provide more evidence about efficacy in the field before the possibility to continue the permit can be assessed.
- Also, vaccination does not allow mink farms to reduce the biosecurity measures.
- The use of vaccine does not alter the monitoring programme for infection of SARS CoV-2 in minks in Finland (based on CID (EU) 2021/788), so far no infections in minks or other animals have been detected in Finland
- The applicant intends to start vaccination early December after the end of the skinning season; If the usage permit is continued, the applicant aims to give the following vaccinations early 2022 well before the breeding season