



ASSURING THE SAFETY, QUALITY & EFFICACY
OF VETERINARY MEDICINES

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ATI 282

Request

From: [Redacted under section 40 of the FOIA]

Sent: 13 January 2014

Subject: Medicines prescribed using the “Special Exemption” procedure

“I would like a list of all medicines prescribed in your jurisdiction using the “Special Exemption” procedure where a product without an MA in the UK can be prescribed as long as it has an MA in another Member State of the EEA.”

VMD Reply

Sent: 20 January 2014

To: [Redacted under section 40 of the FOIA]

Subject: Medicines prescribed using the “Special Exemption” procedure

Your Request

Thank you for your email dated 13 January 2014. We have dealt with your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. You asked for a list of all medicines prescribed in our jurisdiction using the “Special Exemption” procedure where a product without an MA in the UK can be prescribed as long as it has an MA in another Member State of the EEA.

Our Reply

We want to be as open as possible in answering requests that is why we have provided certain information in this reply. However, we believe that your request is potentially very broad and gathering the information together for “all medicines prescribed in our jurisdiction using the “Special Exemption” procedure” etc. could involve a significant cost and diversion of resources from the Agency’s other work. Section 12(1) of the FOIA allows us to refuse a request for information if we estimate that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit, which currently stands at £600. On the basis of our estimates, we consider that the cost would exceed this limit and, as such, we are refusing your request as you currently frame it.

If you were to make a new request for a narrower category of information, it may be that we could comply with that request within the appropriate limit, although I cannot guarantee that this will be the case. In reframing your request you might want to tell us what you want from the information so that we can use this to provide the particular information you require.

Notwithstanding the above, we do want to help you obtain the information you are looking for if we can, so you may find it useful to know that on a quarterly basis the VMD publish a list of the top 10 medicinal products requested for importation. You can find this quarterly report on our website and in MAVIS quarterly newsletter at <http://www.vmd.defra.gov.uk/pharm/mavis.aspx> . Under section 21 of the FOIA we do not have to provide this information because it is accessible to you via a website. Section 21 recognises that the right of access is supplementary to the many ways in which public authorities already provide information to members of the public.

We have set out below the information covering Oct-Dec 2013 that we will publish in MAVIS on 29 January 2014. We do not have to provide this information in advance under section 22 of the FOIA, which covers "information intended for future publication" but we do want to help you in your search for information. Section 22 applies where a public authority has an intention to publish the requested information at some future date. This ensures that the FOIA does not force public authorities into premature publication of information.

List of the top 10 medicinal products requested for importation Oct-Dec 2013

Special Import Certificates (SIC) are for those products which are EU authorised veterinary medicines.

Special treatment Certificates (STC) are for human medicines or veterinary medicines authorised outside of the EU.

Special Import Certificates (SIC and STC) Top 10 Products between 1 October 2013 and 31 December 2013

Product	Active Ingredient	No Of Certs Issued	SIC or STC
Artuvetrin - Injectable Suspension	Allergens	1,716	SIC
Calmivet Solution For Injection	Acepromazine Maleate	665	SIC
Vet-Goid	Allergens	402	SIC

Greer Allergy - Injectable Solution	Allergens	350	STC
Spectrum Hyposensitisation Vaccine - Injectable Solution	Allergens	181	STC
Allervet-CA - Injectable Solution	Allergens	99	STC
Staphage Lysate (staph allergen) solution for injection	Staphylococcus Aureus	95	STC
Immucept 1-20,000 weight for volume	Allergens	63	STC
Allergenic Extract - Injectable Solution	Allergens	62	STC
Oncept (Canine Melanoma Vaccine)	Canine Melanoma DNA	50	STC

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Our Service

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint, you may request an internal review within two calendar months of the date of this e-mail. If you would like to request an internal review please write to [Redacted under section 40 of the FOIA] at the VMD via ati@vmd.defra.gsi.gov.uk.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office

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