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NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN AND EXPORTER

In relation to 8143EHC titled:
EXPORT OF ANIMAL PRODUCTS TO SINGAPORE FOR LABORATORY USE ONLY

Associated Documents: 8143EHC.

IMPORTANT
These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OVs) and exporters. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but always in conjunction with certificate 8143EHC. **We strongly suggest that exporters obtain full details of the importing country's requirements from the veterinary authorities in the country concerned, or their representatives in the UK, in advance of each consignment.**

1. **SCOPE OF THE CERTIFICATE**

This certificate may be used for export to Singapore of animal products, such as sera, plasma, albumin, tissues and cells that are intended for in-vitro laboratory use only.

However, this certificate should not be used for animal products intended to diagnose, treat, or prevent disease in animals or birds, or intend for in-vivo use.

2. **Certification by an Official Veterinarian (OV)**

This certificate may be signed by an OV appointed by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, the Scottish Government, Welsh Government or the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) Northern Ireland, who is on the appropriate panel for export purposes or who holds the appropriate Official Controls Qualification (Veterinary)(OCQ(V)) authorisation.

OVs must sign and stamp the health certificate with the OV stamp in any ink colour **OTHER THAN BLACK**.

Certified Copy Requirements – England, Wales and Scotland

Guidance concerning return of certified copies of EHCs has changed and only specific certified copies are required to be returned to the APHA. Certifying OVs must return a certified copy of EHCs only for the following EHC types:

- if the exported commodity is cattle, pigs, sheep, goats or camelids;
- if the certificate was applied for manually and the application documents have been emailed to APHA and not applied for via the Exports Health Certificates Online (EHCO) system.

Certified copies should be emailed on the day of signature to the Centre for International Trade Carlisle (CITC) at the following address: certifiedcopies@apha.gov.uk.

For certificates that have been issued to the Certifying OV via the EHCO system, the Certifying OV must complete the certifier portal with the status of the certificate and the date of signature.

A copy of all EHCs and supporting documentation certified must be retained for two years.

Certifying OVs are not required to return certified copies of other EHCs issued, however CITC may request certified copies of EHCs and supporting documentation in order to complete Quality Assurance checks or if an issue arises with the consignment after

certification.

DAERA Export Health Certificates: Provision of certified copies

aPVPs certifying DECOL produced Export Health Certificates must return a legible, scanned copy of the final EHC to the relevant DAERA Processing Office within 1 working day of signing.

Good quality photographic copies will be accepted by the department, where obtaining a scanned copy is not feasible - for example, where 'on site' certification is undertaken and scanning facilities are not available.

For record purposes, a copy of the final Export Health Certificate and associated Support documents should be retained by the aPVP for a period of 2 years from the date of certification.

The Department will carry out periodic audits of all aspects of export certification to ensure that a high standard of certification is being maintained.

3. Paragraph IV – Health information

Paragraph IV may be certified on the basis of the following specific guidance in conjunction with the RCVS Principles of Certification. OVs should develop due familiarity with the sourcing, procurement, segregation, processing, handling and storage arrangements in place at the establishment. This should be supported as necessary by physical inspection and by examination of relevant documentation or other records including commercial documentation, veterinary statements, laboratory analysis and valid declarations.

(a) **Paragraph IV 1– Healthy and clinically free from disease**
This paragraph may be certified on the basis of the certifying OV's knowledge of the provenance of the animal materials used to manufacture the exported product.

This may be supported as necessary by relevant commercial documentation or veterinary certificates including either the same phrasing or comparable phrasing confirming that, for example, the animals were fit to be slaughtered for human consumption or that the animal material was fit for human consumption.

(b) **Paragraph IV 1– Safe handling and avoidance of contamination**
This paragraph may be certified on the basis that the final product was not comingled with materials of animal origin of a lesser animal health status during its manufacture and packaging.

(c) **Paragraph IV 2– Non-hazardous and absence of live pathogens**
This paragraph may be certified on the basis that the raw materials were subjected to physical and chemical processes during the manufacture of the final product designed to remove, destroy or inactivate potential pathogens. This may be supported as necessary by routine broad-spectrum laboratory tests for the presence of viable pathogens in the final product or its ingredients.

(d) **Paragraph IV 3– Packaging, storage and handling**
This paragraph may be certified on the basis of the certifying OV's knowledge of the procedures in place at the production facility, supported as necessary by relevant commercial documentation or veterinary certificates.

4. SUPPORTING DECLARATIONS

Where declarations are relied upon to support the completion of this certificate, these must be signed by someone who has knowledge of and responsibility for the relevant parts of the production process and/or declared intended use. The managing director (or equivalent) of the company should provide a letter giving the name(s) and job title(s) of those authorised to give the declaration and the basis on which the declaration is made.

The declaration should include a clause indicating that the signatory is aware that making a false declaration is an offence and that he/she accepts full responsibility if any problems arise with the export should there be any dispute relating to the matters being declared.

Where possible, supporting evidence should be called for and put on file.

5. DISCLAIMER

This certificate is provided on the basis of information available at the time, and may not necessarily comply fully with the requirements of the importing country. It is the exporter's responsibility to check the certificate against any relevant import permit or any advice provided by the competent authority in the importing country. If these do not match, the exporter should contact the APHA Centre for International Trade, Carlisle or DAERA, via the link or e-mail address below:

https://www.gov.uk/guidance/contact-apha

DAERA – Email: vs.implementation@daera-ni.gov.uk