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**EXPORT OF ANIMAL DERIVED MATERIALS FOR MEDICAL, PHARMACEUTICAL OR COSMETIC USE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA - 6038 EHC**

**NOTES FOR GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN**

1. **Scope of the certificate**

Export health certificate 6038EHC may be used for the export of animal derived materials for medical, pharmaceutical or cosmetic use from the United Kingdom to the United States of America.

2. **Certification by a FULL TIME SALARIED OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN (VETERINARY OFFICER)**

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.

The health certificate must be signed and stamped with 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](mailto: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**

Authorised Private Veterinary Practitioners (aPVPs) certifying DAERA Export Certification On-Line (DECOL) produced EHCs 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. If there is not enough room for all the necessary information relating to the consignment on the 6038EHC, please continue on additional sheets. In such cases, the paragraphs in question should then be annotated "Continued on the attached additional schedule(s)". Each page of the additional schedule should bear a page number and the health certificate number, and must be stamped, signed and dated. The schedule(s) must be stapled with the certificate and the certifying official should "fan" and stamp over the pages of the schedule(s) and certificate. One corner of the schedule(s) and certificate should be folded over and stamped also. Any unused/blank spaces at these paragraphs and/or on the schedules should be deleted with diagonal lines.
4. This certificate may be signed on the basis of a declaration from an authorised signatory of the manufacturer and by reference to a valid United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) import permit.
5. Paragraph **I** refers. The certificate must CLEARLY identify and correspond to the shipment by means of an invoice number, shipping marks, lot number or other identification method.
6. Paragraph **IV** (a) should be completed with the details of the source of the import conditions. The certifying veterinarian must ensure that the health conditions to be certified are in accordance with the import conditions contained in the import permit.

The import permit will be headed '**UNITED STATES VETERINARY PERMIT FOR IMPORTATION AND TRANSPORTATION OF CONTROLLED MATERIALS AND ORGANISMS AND VECTORS**'. Under the heading '**Restrictions and precautions for transporting and handling materials and all derivatives**' should appear one or more paragraphs, one of which will request that each shipment be accompanied by an ORIGINAL certificate endorsed by a full time salaried veterinarian of the agency responsible for animal health of the GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The exporter must supply a declaration including exactly the same wording as the matters to be certified. This must be signed by someone who has knowledge of and responsibility for the relevant parts of the production process and familiar with the manufacturing plant. If the person signing the declaration is not the managing director (or equivalent) themselves, then, 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 authorisation letter should be updated as required but at least annually. The declaration should include a clause indicating that the signatory is aware that making a false declaration is an offence. Where possible, supporting evidence (for example, health certificates for raw materials showing their country of origin, treatment records, etc.) should be called for and put on file.

It is vital that the text in the manufacturer's declaration and the text inserted in Paragraph IV (b) is identical to the relevant conditions stated in the import permit.

The RCVS Guide to Professional Conduct states that [Veterinary Surgeons] "must not recklessly confirm what other people have stated".

7. A copy of this certificate must be uploaded on EHCO and also retained by the signing veterinarian.

8. **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](mailto:vs.implementation@daera-ni.gov.uk)

