

## **BVA response to the consultation on the importing, batch testing and batch releasing of veterinary medicines in Great Britain**

### **Who we are**

1. BVA is the national representative body for the veterinary profession in the United Kingdom and has over 19,000 members. Our primary aim is to represent, support and champion the interests of the veterinary profession in this country, and we therefore take a keen interest in all issues affecting the profession, including animal health and welfare, veterinary medicines, public health, regulatory issues and employment matters.

### **Option 1 – Medicines must be imported into a ManA site and be certified by a QP**



This option is a smaller change than Option 1. It reduces controls on a small number of countries, which we already recognise, through an MRA, have similar high standards to the UK.

This would maintain the current system for imports from EU countries, which are likely to form a large proportion of the market. Maintaining the current regime is likely to facilitate finding a durable, long-term solution to the import of veterinary medicines to Northern Ireland, as it will not have to find a way to incorporate checks for EU imports of veterinary medicines.

This option would reduce oversight slightly, but only relates to a small number of countries with whom we have an agreement, and whose standards we are satisfied remain comparable to our own. This option would also create the need for regular meetings with these exempt countries to ensure standards are maintained, but would be less labour-intensive than the other options.

This option reduces restrictions, and would therefore have either no impact, or a positive impact on supply. This would maintain availability of a full complement of veterinary medicines to treat and prevent diseases in animals.

### **Option 3 – The introduction of a market access scheme for wholesale dealers**

This would maintain access to UK markets for large EU pharmaceutical companies, but may be untenable for smaller businesses. It also retains oversight of imports from more countries, although again, the advantage of this is debatable for countries with similar standards.

This would add much more bureaucracy for the wholesalers, and may push some smaller companies out of the UK market. Smaller companies, or those with lower market share may

