

... proposal for a regulation of the **European Parliament** and of the **Council** laying down Community procedures for the establishment of **residue limits of pharmacologically active substances in foodstuffs of animal origin**, and repealing Regulation (EEC) No 2377/90(COM(2007)0194 – C6-0113/2007 – 2007/0064(COD))
Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

Rapporteur: Avril Doyle MEP

Background

- Commission Regulation establishing a list of substances **essential** for the treatment of equidae
- **Positives** list not a **negatives** list
- The cascade applies, i.e. **exceptional use, welfare of the animal**, under the **direct responsibility** of the veterinarian.
- Separately – non-annex medicine, essential – **non-food producing horses only**

General policy objective

- ... to continue to limit consumer exposure to pharmacologically active substances ... used in veterinary medicinal products for food producing animals ...
- Improve availability of veterinary medicinal products for food producing animals
- ...to ensure animal health and welfare and avoid illegal use of substances...

General amendments

Priority should be given to the detection of the use of prohibited substances ...
... recommendations should take into account any relevant scientific findings of the European Food Safety Authority
...

Justification for equine amendments

- *There is an urgent need to rationalise the provisions with regard to MRLs in equidae to protect their health and welfare without permanent withdrawal from the food chain and without any risk to consumers. Equidae should be treated with the best of what modern science can offer. Peer-reviewed science clearly indicates that no such residues would exist in muscle meat e.g. from oral or intravenous administration after six months, which allows a large safety margin on time.*

Equine specific amendment

- ***Veterinary medicinal products which do not have a maximum residue limit for equidae, which are not included in Annex IV of Regulation (EEC) No 2377/90 or Article 13(2) of this Regulation, and which are used "off-label" and "under the provisions of the cascade" and not administered intramuscularly or subcutaneously, shall have a nominal withdrawal period of six months.***

Equine specific amendment

- ***The use of pharmaceuticals containing pharmacologically active ingredients not on "the essential" substances list or the "positive list" for equidae and not administered intra-muscularly or subcutaneously, shall have a nominal withdrawal period of six months.***