

Meeting of Heads of European Veterinary Regulatory Authorities

HEVRA

29th May 2002, Segovia, Spain

Draft Press Release

The HEVRA meeting under the Spanish presidency took place in Segovia on the 29th May 2002. It was chaired by Prof. M. Arboix, Subdirector Gral. for Veterinary Medicinal Products of the Spanish Medicine Agency, who welcomed all participants.

Françoise Falize presented a report on Withdrawals in MRP during 2001. It was proposed by P. Jones and F. Falize, that to avoid disagreements and decrease the number of withdrawals a list of actions should be taken, such as achievement of a similar validation criteria (through the check lists similar to the ones used in CP (legal and scientific validation). Also the identification, by VMRFG, of disagreements on scientific problems, and training of assessors at a high level to assure harmonisation of scientific assessment were considered as important.

Concerning Training of assessors, P. Jones informed that there will be budget for Veterinary assessors' training for year 2003 and meanwhile Heads of Agencies should propose issues for training "CVMP" members.

HEVRA supported the creation of a specific Group for veterinary issues (such as ecotoxicity, resistances or animal safety) which will feed the Project team (current Presidency, PT, IR, BE as co-ordinator, EMEA, CADREAC/CAVDRI). FR, and BE agreed to take part in this specific group.

An Activity Report on the VMRFG meetings during the Spanish Presidency was given by D. Sandoval, VMRFG Chairperson. Issues such as the increased amount of procedures finalised in the first semester of 2002 and the objectives to be put forward to improve the MRP were debated. Also issues such as classification of veterinary tissue adhesives and situation of TSE review were discussed.

Information was given on the background of the project, the goals to achieve on EUDRAVIGILANCE gateway, data management system and standard terminology. Also the current status of the project (a prototype has been prepared), strategic issues of major consequences and the ways forward were presented.

An update on PERF II was presented by Mr. P. Jones and the CAVDRI representative thanked EMEA, EC, and HEVRA for help received.

Two questions were put forward at instances of VMRFG, concerning requirements at renewal and validation of generic applications which were debated in order to provide harmonisation of criteria.

The Spanish network for surveillance of antibiotics resistance was explained. After a discussion it was concluded that there was a need to implement a network in all MS and for data on consume to be public to evaluate antimicrobial use benefit/risk rate.