



# Top Tips No.1

## The Supply of Veterinary Medicines (POM-V & POM-VPS) on Prescription

This Top Tips guide will highlight the things to look out for when supplying POM-V and POM-VPS medicines against a veterinary prescription. As a pharmacist you will be familiar with the requirements when making a supply of a human medicine against a prescription for human use. This Top Tips guide shows the additional requirements that you need to be aware of when supplying POM-V or POM-VPS products against a veterinary prescription compared to the supply of a human medicine against a human prescription.

### Prescriptions

The additional details that must be included on a veterinary prescription are the:

- Telephone number of the prescriber;
- Qualification of the prescriber;
- Name and address of the owner of the animal (and where the animal is kept, if different);
- Identification of the animal(s), including species;
- Withdrawal period (if relevant);
- Any necessary warnings;
- If necessary, a declaration that it is “for administration under the cascade” (see below):

#### CONTROLLED DRUG PRESCRIPTIONS

- Valid for 28 days;
- Include a declaration that these items are “prescribed for the treatment of an animal or herd under his care”.

#### THE CASCADE

A veterinary medicinal product must be supplied where one exists. It is unlawful to supply a human medicine against a veterinary prescription unless it specifically states that it is “for use under the cascade”. Veterinary medicines licensed for another species, for another clinical condition in the same species, extemporaneously prepared medicines or human medicines cannot be supplied against a veterinary prescription unless the prescription specifically states that it is “for administration under the cascade”.

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# Labelling

These are the details that must appear on your dispensing label, when you supply a product for use “under the cascade”, in addition to those needed on the label when you dispense a human prescription for human use:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Name of the prescriber;</li><li>• Name and address of the animal owner;</li><li>• Identification of the animal(s) (including the species);</li><li>• Date of supply;</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Expiry date of the product;</li><li>• Warnings for the user (e.g. related to administration/disposal/target species etc.);</li><li>• Withdrawal period (if there is one);</li><li>• The words “For animal treatment only”.</li></ul> |
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If the medicine is not prescribed “under the cascade” you do not legally have to label it. However, there is a professional requirement that as a minimum your dispensing label includes:

- name and address of the dispensing pharmacy;
- name and address of the owner of the animal;
- date of dispensing.

# Record Keeping

- Records must be kept for receipts and supplies of POM-V and POM-VPS products.
- In addition to the record you would make when supplying against a private prescription for a human you must record the:

Batch number (if for a non-food-producing animal, you only need to make a record of this either on the date you received it from your supplier or the date when you first supplied the product).

**The pharmacist can either keep all documents that show all the required information or make a record in their private prescription book.**

- Records can be kept electronically.
- Records and documents must be kept for at least 5 years.
- Pharmacies which stock veterinary medicines must undertake an annual stock audit of their veterinary medicines.