

Generic veterinary medicines: benefits to society

- Generics create a healthy **competitive environment** in the veterinary medicines sector, providing **affordable choices** to society and stimulating innovation and viability of the field.
- Generics contribute to retrieve **availability** problems as they increase the veterinary medicines assortment and treatment options in many geographic regions that are failing to attract the attention of originator companies. Additionally, in circumstances of growing population we face growing need to secure access to food at affordable prices.
- When there is no originator available or the price of the originator cannot be afforded, generics facilitate **quality, safe and effective treatments** and prevent animal suffering and medicines misuse, potentially negatively affecting human and animal safety.
- Generic companies are often smaller companies or SMEs (small and medium sized enterprises) providing sustainable European employment policy end economy.

Call to MEPs - Regulation on Veterinary Medicines

EGGVP (European Group for Generic Veterinary Products) is much concerned by the ongoing discussions on the Commission proposal for a Regulation on veterinary medicines. Some voices propose granting originator companies with much longer exclusivity periods in the market, without any **generic competition** possible. Should these views move forward, the entrance of generics would be blocked; this would most adversely affect users and consumers, facing limited access to the alternative choices provided by generics and with unacceptable consequences for animal health, welfare and public safety.



EGGVP calls MEPs to work responsibly and to **find appropriately balanced solutions**. The granted (but not prolonged) periods of protection should be proportionate to the investment and linked to the extent of the new data development. Additionally, moderately prolonged protection periods would be reasonable only in situations where there is a real problem and incentives to innovation are most needed: availability of medicines for **bees and minor species**, as well as development of **completely new antimicrobials**. These situations deserve a clear distinction from the rest, since the return of investment in these cases might take longer.

Furthermore, there should be clear provisions that innovation performed by **generic companies should also be protected**.

EGGVP claims for a transparent and predictable **regulatory environment that guarantees fair competition for all players** (originators and generics), by rewarding innovation without excessively protective mechanisms, but proportionately and without compromising the access of generics, which is the key to sustainable competition, economy and needs of society in the EU.

About EGGVP

EGGVP is the association representing the pharmaceutical industry of generic veterinary medicinal products in Europe. It represents the interest of its members in order to achieve a transparent, harmonized, pragmatic and proportionate regulatory environment.

EGGVP membership is mainly composed of small and medium sized companies. Headquarters of all EGGVP companies are all located in EU Member States. 20 out of 22 EGGVP members are “veterinary only” companies.

EGGVP is a member of the European Platform for the Responsible use of Medicines in Animals (EPRUMA) and firmly sticks to its principles to promote the responsible use of medicines in animals in the EU.

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