



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY DIRECTORATE GENERAL
Safety of the food chain
Pesticides and Biocides

NOTE FOR GUIDANCE

This document is an attempt to provide guidance in the interest of consistency, and has been drafted by the Commission services responsible for biocidal products with the aim of finding an agreement with all or a majority of the Member States' Competent Authorities for biocidal products. Please note, however, that Member States are not legally obliged to follow the approach set out in this document, since only the Court of Justice of the European Union can give authoritative interpretations on the contents of Union law.

Subject: Assignment of products used for general disinfection in veterinary practices or hospitals to product type 2 or 3 under the BPR

- (1) During the drafting of guidance documents for Efficacy of disinfectants the Efficacy Working Group requested clarification as to whether products used for general disinfection in veterinary practices and hospitals should be assigned to product type (PT) 2 or 3 under the BPR.
- (2) The question was also communicated to the Member States via HelpEx (question 0000012371).
- (3) Disinfection in the medical area such as in hospitals is covered by PT 2. Disinfection for veterinary hygiene purposes is covered by PT 3. However, the assignment of disinfectants used in veterinary practices and hospitals is handled differently in the MS.
- (4) One MS, for instance, regards disinfection in veterinary hospitals as a PT 2 application because conditions in the veterinary hospital are more similar to conditions in human hospitals than to conditions in stables (i.e. room temperature, low soiling level, etc.). For the same reason, another MS regards general surface disinfection in veterinary practices as a PT 2 application providing for the use of alcohol-based products (alcohol based products cannot be authorised under PT 3, as ethanol is not supported for that use under the review programme of existing active substances), whereas some specific uses can be assigned to PT 3 (e.g. disinfection against parasites). Other MS see disinfection in veterinary practices/hospitals rather as a PT 3 application.

- (5) In order to harmonise practices between Member States, the following decision on assignment of products used for general disinfection in veterinary practices and hospitals was agreed:
- (a) Typically, identical products are applied for general disinfection of surfaces in the medical area (medical practices, hospitals) as well as of surfaces in veterinary practices or hospitals associated with examination and operation/treatment of the animals. It is feasible to assign this use to PT 2, whereas products for specific veterinary hygiene purposes (e.g. products with specific claims against a target organism only relevant in the veterinary area) shall be assigned to PT 3.
 - (b) Disinfectants are furthermore used in veterinary practices and hospitals for general disinfection of surfaces associated with the housing and transportation of animals. Such products fall under PT 3 according to Annex V of the BPR.