EUROPEAN MEDICINES AGENCY
SCIENCE MEDICINES HEALTH

8 November 2010
EMA/CVMP/343596/2010
Veterinary Medicines and Product Data Management

1. Background information on the procedure

1.1. Submission of the dossier

Further to the submission of a letter of intent by Merial S.A.S. on 25 August 2006, the CVMP accepted on 13 September 2006 that BTVPUR AlSap 2-4 was eligible for the submission of a dossier for granting of a Community marketing authorisation via the centralised procedure under exceptional circumstances.

The Committee for Medicinal Products for Veterinary Use appointed Dr Maria Tollis from Italy as Rapporteur and Dr Jean-Claude Rouby from France as Co-Rapporteur for the assessment of the application for BTVPUR AlSap 2-4 during its meeting of September 2006.

The company Merial S.A.S. submitted an application to the EMEA on 4 December 2007 for the granting of a Community marketing authorisation in accordance with Article 31 of Regulation (EC) No 726/2004 of 31 March 2004. Further the Company requested for the application to be considered under Article 26(3) of Directive 2001/82/EC and Article 39(7) of Regulation (EC) 726/2004 regarding exceptional circumstances and Article 39 (8) of Regulation (EC) 726/2004 for an accelerated assessment.

The application was validated on 18 December 2007.

1.2. Steps taken for the assessment of the product

- The Rapporteur and Co-Rapporteur's assessment reports were circulated to all CVMP Members on respectively 26 February 2008 and 12 March 2008.
- A list of questions was adopted by the CVMP on 16 April 2008.
- The company submitted written responses on 16 April 2010.
- The CVMP adopted an Opinion on 14 July 2010 recommending the granting of a Marketing Authorisation under exceptional circumstances for BTVPUR AlSAp 2-4. The CVMP considered that due to the current epidemiological situation of bluetongue and the consequent threat to animal health there were objective and verifiable reasons for recommending the granting of a Marketing Authorisation under exceptional circumstances, namely that:
    - Bluetongue disease is spread by insect vectors and therefore presents particular challenges in terms of control due to an inability to prevent transmission from infected animals other than through insect control combined with reducing or preventing viraemia (virus in the blood) in susceptible animals by means of vaccination.
    - Bluetongue disease is epizootic in nature and has the potential to result in high morbidity and mortality in susceptible populations, particularly of sheep.

7 Westferry Circus ● Canary Wharf ● London E14 4HB ● United Kingdom
Telephone +44 (0)20 7418 8400 **Facsimile** +44 (0)20 7418 8447
E-mail info@ema.europa.eu **Website** www.ema.europa.eu

- There is a remaining epidemiological risk from Bluetongue serotype 2 (BTV2) and serotype 4 (BTV4) for European sheep populations, in view of recent and previous outbreaks of BTV2 and BTV4 in Europe that constitute an objective need to have authorised products available for use in the coming months.
- Consequently any delay should be avoided where possible in making available safe and effective vaccines that have been demonstrated to be in compliance with the CVMP guideline on Minimum Data Requirements for an Authorisation under Exceptional Circumstances for Vaccines for Emergency Use against Bluetongue (EMEA/CVMP/IWP/220193/2008).
- The application has met the requirements of the CVMP guideline on Minimum Data Requirements for an Authorisation under Exceptional Circumstances for Vaccines for Emergency Use against Bluetongue (EMEA/CVMP/IWP/220193/2008).
- The applicant has agreed to the necessary post-authorisation commitments and specific obligations, to assure the safe use of the product in the field.
- The applicant cannot reasonably be expected to provide the results from certain trials on the target species due to the difficulties in conducting large scale trials for a disease that is under community control and the need for any experimental studies to be conducted within high containment facilities.

The European Commission granted a marketing authorisation valid throughout the European Union for BTVPUR AlSap 2-4 on 5 November 2010.

A. MANUFACTURER(S) OF THE BIOLOGICAL ACTIVE SUBSTANCE AND MANUFACTURING AUTHORISATION HOLDER RESPONSIBLE FOR BATCH RELEASE

Name and address of the manufacturer(s) of the biological active substance

MERIAL Animal Health Limited
Biological Laboratory, Ash Road,
Pirbright, Woking, Surrey GU24 0NQ
United Kingdom

MERIAL Laboratoire de Lyon Gerland
254, rue Marcel Mérieux
69342 LYON CEDEX 07
France

Name and address of the manufacturer responsible for batch release

MERIAL
Laboratory of Lyon Porte des Alpes
Rue de l'Aviation,
69800 Saint-Priest
France

B. CONDITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS OF THE MARKETING AUTHORISATION REGARDING SUPPLY OR USE

Veterinary medicinal product subject to prescription.

According to Article 71 of Directive 2001/82/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council as amended, Member States may prohibit the import, sale, supply and/or use of the veterinary medicinal product on the whole or part of their territory if it is established that:

a) the administration of the veterinary medicinal product to animals will interfere with the implementation of national programmes for the diagnosis, control and eradication of animal diseases, or will cause difficulties in certifying the absence of contamination in live animals or in foodstuffs or other products obtained from treated animals.

b) the disease to which the veterinary medicinal product is intended to confer immunity is largely absent from the territory.

C. CONDITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS OF THE MARKETING AUTHORISATION WITH REGARD TO THE SAFE AND EFFECTIVE USE OF THE PRODUCT

Not applicable.

D. STATEMENT OF THE MRLs

The active substance being a principle of biological origin intended to produce active immunity is not in the scope of Regulation (EC) 470/2009.

The following ingredients of BTVPUR AlSap 2-4 suspension for injection for sheep are included in Table 1 (Allowed substances) of the annex to Commission Regulation (EU) No 37/2010 as follows:

Pharmaco-logically active substance	Marker residue	Animal species	MRLs	Target tissues	Other provisions	Therapeutic classification
Aluminium hydroxide	Not applicable	All food producing species	No MRL required	Not applicable	No entry	No entry
Saponin	Not applicable	All food producing species	No MRL required	Not applicable	No entry	No entry
Glycine	Not applicable	All food producing species	No MRL required	Not applicable	No entry	No entry

In addition to the above constituents the product contains the following excipients: phosphate buffer, silicon antifoam and water for injections. These ingredients, as used in this product, are considered as not falling within the scope of Regulation (EC) No 470/2009.

E. SPECIFIC OBLIGATIONS TO BE FULFILLED BY THE MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER

1. The applicant is required to submit as a matter of priority data relating to the following:

   a) Stability of the vaccine: The final report concerning the stability results obtained from 3 batches of each presentation should be provided

   b) Duration of Immunity: Results from 6 and 12 month duration of immunity studies should be provided

   Progress on the above issues should be reported 6 months following the authorisation of the product.

2. The applicant is required to submit in 6 months following the authorisation of the product, an action plan together with timelines for all points that require resolution in order for the authorisation to revert to normal status as detailed in Annex I of the CVMP Assessment Report. The above information will be evaluated and approved by the CVMP and will form part of the subsequent annual reassessment.

3. For the first and subsequent annual reassessments the Marketing Authorisation Holder should provide annually an updated risk assessment on the continuous use of the vaccine taking into account the continued need for the vaccine, its history of use over the previous twelve months and progress made in addressing the items that require resolution in order for the authorisation to revert to normal status.

4. The applicant is required to submit 6-monthly Periodic Update Safety reports starting once the Marketing Authorisation has been approved and, in addition to the legal requirements applicable to reporting of suspected adverse reactions, the Applicant is required to specifically monitor and evaluate the following suspected adverse reactions in the PSURs: abortions, spontaneous death, effects on milk production, local reactions, pyrexia, lethargy and hypersensitivity reactions, including severe allergic reactions. The frequency of submissions of PSUR reports will be assessed at the annual reassessment of the product.