

# HYPERMUNE NEWS

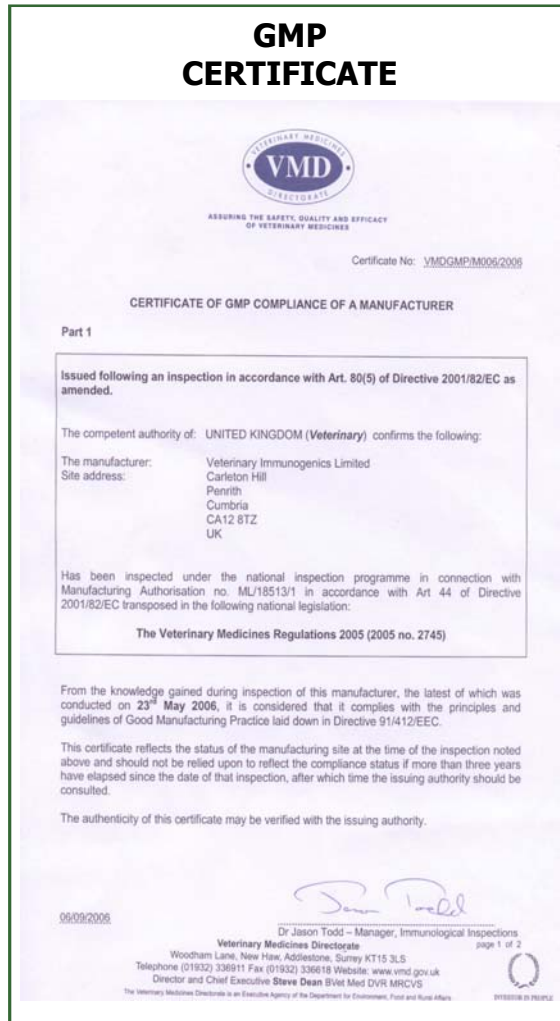
Our dedication is to  
 Quality  
 Safety  
 Efficacy  
 &  
**An uncompromising high  
 standard of service at all  
 times**

\*\*\*\*\*

**CONTENTS:**

- Swamp Fever
- Rhodococcus Plasma
- Good Manufacturing Practice
- Endotoxaemia
- UK and International Shipments
- Availability of Immunological  
 Veterinary Medicines

Veterinary Immunogenics Ltd  
 Carleton Hill  
 Penrith  
 Cumbria CA11 8TZ England



Our purpose is to promote all the benefits of immunoprophylaxis and immunotherapy and to be established as the premier producer of the finest animal plasma in the world.

\*\*\*\*\*

**EQUINE PLASMA  
 PRODUCTS**

**Hypermune**

**Hypermune-RE**

**Hypermune-J**

**Hypermune-RV**



Working together with regulatory authorities, scientists, and equine veterinary surgeons for the benefit of the horses under our care.

Phone: +44 (0)1768 863881 Fax: +44 (0)1768 891389 Mobile: +44 (0)7831259539

tombarr@veterinaryimmunogenics.com

eileenbarr@veterinaryimmunogenics.com

Please accept our sincere apologies but normal shipping schedules cannot be met over Christmas and New Year because national holidays occur on Monday 25th & Tuesday 26th December and Monday 1st January 2007.

**WE ARE, THEREFORE, UNABLE TO SHIP FROM THURSDAY 21<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER TO MONDAY 1<sup>st</sup> JANUARY INCLUSIVE**

## SWAMP FEVER-Equine Infectious Anaemia

Veterinary Immunogenics has been following closely the developments of Equine Infectious Anaemia (Swamp Fever) in Ireland, particularly because of its suspected link with the administration of equine plasma. This event has the potential to severely damage the overall concept of immunoprophylaxis and immunotherapy by plasma transfusion.

VIL is working strenuously with various bodies to shore up the damage and to provide continuing assurance that Hypermune is licensed and is, therefore, produced to standards of Good Manufacturing Practice. Freedom from virus has always been and continues to be one of the cornerstones of the safety of every litre of Hypermune, since commencing production in 1993.

## GOOD MANUFACTURING PRACTICE-GMP

What is GMP? It is the overall process of ensuring that products are consistently produced and controlled to maintain the quality standards required by the Marketing Authorisation granted by the Regulatory Authority. All processes are defined, reviewed, validated and facilities approved. These include premises, equipment, starting materials, containers, documented procedures, storage, transport, personnel training, disciplined record keeping of all stages, Quality Control testing and pharmacovigilance.

Hypermune plasma products are produced, tested, stored and distributed in compliance with the exacting standards under EU regulations of Good Manufacturing Practice. Our GMP certificate can be viewed on the front of this newsletter and on our website at [www.veterinaryimmunogenics.com](http://www.veterinaryimmunogenics.com)

## AVAILABILITY OF VETERINARY MEDICINES

In spite of the introduction of the Prescribing Cascade within the external boundaries of the EU, and contrary to assurances received from our local MP, the Director of the CBI and the Minister of State of the British Government, a considerable number of potential users continue to experience difficulty in legitimately importing Hypermune to administer to animals under their care. Although it is the responsibility of each user to comply with their regulatory authority VIL is actively supporting applications. If you are having difficulty please do not hesitate to inform VIL so that we can work together to rectify the problem.

**As the use of frozen plasma is usually seasonal and Hypermune products are expensive, both new and existing support staff may benefit from a refresher on handling and managing frozen plasma. Ask for our advisory document (or website download ) to ensure you handle, store, warm, & thaw **without damage.****

## ENDOTOXAEMIA & SEPTIC FOALS

Equine plasma is beneficial in the treatment of septic foals, it is suggested in a 2005 publication in The Australian Veterinary Journal.(1) Improved neutrophil function as indicated by the oxidative burst activity was observed. The oxidative burst activity was lower in septic foals than healthy foals but this became significantly increased after plasma transfusion in the septic foals.

1. McTaggart,C., Penhale, J. and Raidal, S.L. (2005) Effect of Plasma Transfusion on Neutrophil Function in Healthy and Septic Foals. Australian Veterinary Journal. 499-505

Customer feedback also supports the concept of providing good quality endotoxin antibodies to gram negative enterobacteriae in equines with colitis, enteritis, protein losing enteropathies. **Hypermune-J** should therefore be considered in any of these situations.

**RHODOCOCCUS EQUI PLASMA. When is the time to administer? Answer:** At the time of expected challenge, taking into consideration foaling patterns, weather pattern and previous experience.

In 2006 VIL collaborated with the University of Hannover Veterinary Faculty and provided Hypermune-RE for use in a double blind study on an *R. equi* endemic stud farm in Northern Germany. Three groups of 30 foals were selected at random in the order they were born. One group received Hypermune-RE within 2 days of being born and approximately 4 weeks later. The second group received "ordinary" plasma and the third none. All the foals receiving Hypermune RE demonstrated a sustained rise in specific antibody after each transfusion, whereas the other two groups did not. In addition clinical observations and lung scans supported the claim that Hypermune-RE significantly reduces the incidence and severity of R equi disease. The quality of the antibodies in Hypermune-RE is paramount to its efficacy.

## ORDERS, DESPATCH & SHIPPING

**United Parcel Service (UPS)** is our main international carrier. In emergencies UPS can ensure delivery in Europe by either 9am or 12 noon, Tuesday to Friday, provided **the order is placed by 10.30am**. These higher levels of service do incur additional charges but ask for details when necessary.

**TNT** is now our carrier for UK deliveries. Deliveries are guaranteed to all UK customers before the end of the next working day. In addition they offer timed deliveries and Saturday delivery at extra charge. **Please ensure that we receive UK orders before 3.30pm.**

EVERY EFFORT IS MADE TO ENSURE THAT PLASMA PRODUCTS ARE WITH THE CUSTOMER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

We ask you to appreciate that adverse weather conditions can affect shipping schedules. It is advisable, therefore, to keep a small number of Hypermune products in stock if possible.

**Wishing you a very merry Christmas and best wishes for the New Year**

