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| **Veterinary Support Health Attestation for the Movement within Great Britain of Animal Products (Excluding Germinal Products)** |

This Support Health Attestation (SHA) is **Not** an Official Document or an Export Certificate

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| Support Health Attestation No. |       |
| **1. Identification of Product** |
|  |  |
| a) Detailed description of product: |  |
|       |
|  |  |
| b) Unique identification marks (e.g. on carcases or packaging) |       |
|  |  |
| c) Date(s) of:  |
|  |  |  |  |
| Production |       | Slaughter |       | Cutting |       |
|  |  |  |  |
| Processing |       | Packing |       |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| d) Month(s) and year(s) when frozen (if applicable): |
|       |

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| **2. Origin and Destination of the Product** |
|  |
| a) Address(es), type(s) of establishment (e.g. slaughterhouse, cutting plant, processing plant, cold store) and official approval/registration number(s) of the establishment(s) **from** which the consignment will be dispatched: |
|       |
|  |
| b) Address(es), type(s) of establishment (e.g. slaughterhouse, cutting plant, processing plant, cold store) and official approval/registration number(s) of the establishment(s) **to** which the consignment will be dispatched: |
|       |

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| **3.** **Health Attestation** |
| I, the undersigned veterinarian, certify that: |  |
|  |  |
| a) the products described in this document comply with the following health requirements from Specimen EHC number(s) (as in the footer of the official certificate(s)):       |
| (insert text as specified in the aforementioned EHC(s) or reference to relevant EHC sections) |
|  |  |
| b) the establishment(s) specified at paragraph 2(a) \*is/are \*approved/listed for exports to the following country/countries: |
|       |
| *\*delete as appropriate* |
| Support Health Attestation No. |       |

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| **Veterinary Practice or Establishment Stamp (not Official Veterinarian (OV) stamp):**  |
|  |
|  |  |
|  |
| Name in BLOCK LETTERS  |  MRCVS |  |
|  |  |  |
| Signature of Registered Veterinarian |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| RCVS Registration No. |       |  |
|  |  |  |
| Telephone No. |       |  |
|  |  |  |
| Address |       |  |
|  | Postcode:  |       |  |
|  |  |  |
| Date |       |  |

**Guidance Notes for Registered Veterinarians Certifying SHAs**

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| **DISCLAIMER - This Support Health Attestation (SHA) has been created and made freely available to facilitate and support exports. The SHA is not an official document or an export certificate.** **APHA/Defra does not accept any responsibility or liability for any consequences associated with the misuse of this non-official document. When certifying this document veterinarians are advised to ensure that this activity is covered by appropriate professional indemnity insurance.****These guidance notes do not apply to OVs working on behalf of the Competent Authority in meat approved premises. Please refer to your employer for further guidance.** |

1. Scope

1. This template Support Health Attestation is designed to be used to accompany animal products, excluding germinal products, for movements within Great Britain in order to facilitate the eventual export certification of these products to other countries.
2. SHAs may be used to support official export certification by Certifying Officers (COs) including OVs.

**Important:** This unofficial document must **not** be used as a substitute for official certification. For example:

* for the internal movement of animal products destined for export to certain countries for which a specific, 'bespoke' official attestation is required e.g.:
* China - pig meat (7006EHC, 1734IMC)
* Eurasian Customs Union:
* poultry meat (7459EHC/IMC, 7468EHC/IMC)
* sheep and goat meat (7537EHC/IMC)
* bovine meat (7538EHC/IMC)
* milk and milk products (6409EHC/IMC)
* India:
* pig meat (7534EHC/IMC)
* poultry meat (7514EHC/IMC)
* Australia - cooked pig meat imported from an approved country that has undergone further preparation in GB (8021EHC/IMC)
* Canada - fresh beef (7833EHC/IMC) and/or
* in place of any official certification required for movements of animal products from Great Britain to Northern Ireland under the Northern Ireland Protocol.

2. Signature

1. This SHA can only be signed by a Veterinarian who is a registered Member or Fellow of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (MRCVS/FRCVS) **and** who has the relevant, knowledge of, and familiarity with, the processes carried out in the establishment from which it is issued, or is in possession of veterinary declarations attesting to the facts required in order to sign the attestation.
2. **This SHA is not an official document issued under the control of APHA/Defra**.
3. **Veterinarians certifying this SHA do not need to be APHA designated OVs. APHA designated OVs, should not sign this SHA in their official capacity or using their APHA OV stamp**.
4. SHAs are designed to be used each time products are consigned from one establishment to another within the United Kingdom. The SHA should typically be certified after the relevant products have been produced but before the products leave the establishment. Under exceptional circumstances, and on a case-by-case basis, SHAs may be signed for products that have left the abattoir subject to the agreement of issuing veterinarian.
5. Some Export Health Certificates (EHCs) require detailed understanding of complex requirements. Registered Veterinarians should work with the Official CO certifying the export to agree the information required to be provided in the SHA and ensure that in doing so they strictly adhere to the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS) ten Principles of Certification:

[Http://www.rcvs.org.uk/advice-and-guidance/code-of-professional-conduct-for-veterinary-surgeons/supporting-guidance/certification](http://www.rcvs.org.uk/advice-and-guidance/code-of-professional-conduct-for-veterinary-surgeons/supporting-guidance/certification).

1. Where paper documents are used, the veterinarian signing the SHA should stamp it with either their personal or practice stamp or, where available, the approval stamp of the establishment of origin. The signature and stamp on the SHA should be in a colour **other than the printed text**.
2. With the agreement of the export CO, SHAs may also be issued electronically, subject to sufficient safeguards and security and in accordance with RCVS guidance (link above). For example, colour scanned copies of original signed SHAs may be sent electronically directly from the Registered Veterinarian to the CO in such a way that document tampering by a third party is not possible.
3. After completion, veterinarians signing the SHA should retain a copy of the SHA alongside any relevant support attestations and/or copies of other relevant documents. This is for reference and audit purposes in order to assist with queries that may arise post-movement or when SHAs are being used to support EHC procedures. Veterinarians must determine their own document retention period after which time these documents may be disposed of. A minimum of two years is suggested and you should also comply with any professional indemnity policy conditions relating to retention of records
4. There is no need to return copies to the APHA Centre for International Trade - Carlisle (CITC). However, copies that have been used for export certification may be requested by APHA for audit purposes.

**3. SHA Number**

1. The veterinarian signing the Health Attestation must identify each SHA with a unique serial number (e.g. Veterinarian RCVS number/establishment number/year/sequential number). To avoid the risk of duplication and assist traceability, Veterinarian and food businesses operators (FBOs) should keep in their establishment a record of these sequential numbers.
2. Before signing a SHA, Veterinarians should request FBOs to produce this record so they can assign a new unique number. Veterinarians should then insert the new number onto the SHA and the FBO record.

**4. Identification of Product**

1. This template illustrates information which could be used to identify specific consignments of products but this section could be modified to refer instead to a range of products produced over a specific time-frame (e.g. all products produced on a specific date at an abattoir).
2. In all cases, traceability information must enable identification of the specific products which the SHA relates to and the SHA must only be signed after these products have been produced.
3. Paragraph 1(a) refers. A full description should be provided including species of animal, fresh or processed, and a description relevant to the type of product(s) e.g. whole or half carcases/cuts/type of meat preparation or product, nature of packaging, weight of consignment, number of carcases/cuts/cartons/packages/other containers.
4. Paragraph 1(b) refers. The identification will vary according to the nature of the animal product(s). Any markings applied to the product(s) which help to link the consigned goods to the SHA should be used here. This could include stamps on carcases, batch numbers, product codes, production dates etc as well as a seal number (if used).
5. Relevant dates of production/processing/freezing etc. should be entered at paragraphs 1(c) and (d) where applicable.

**5. Origin and Destination of the Product**

1. Paragraph 2(a) and (b) refers. State the addresses, types of establishment and, where available, the official approval or registration numbers for the establishments of origin and destination.
2. If the destination establishment(s) is/are not known, add 'Not Known', however including this can help by supporting the traceability information available to COs.

**6. Health Attestation**

1. Paragraph 3(a) refers.Any **specific import health requirements of the destination country should be entered here.**
2. Registered veterinarians must agree which specific health requirements to include in the SHA with the CO due to sign the Official Export Certificate(s).
3. In some cases, health conditions can be complex and it is essential that the veterinarian signing the SHA is fully aware of the conditions required to be certified. Veterinarians must not certify compliance with the requirements from the destination country unless they fully understand these requirements and are in possession of a specimen copy of the current version of the relevant EHC, its Notes for Guidance (NFG) and any other associated documents.
4. Specimen copies of EHCs and NFGs can be obtained from APHA Form Finder:

<https://www.gov.uk/export-health-certificates>

1. The reference number(s) for the relevant EHCs for the destination country of final destination should be stated (including version number/date agreed found at the footer left of each page of an EHC).
2. Relevant import health requirements should either be copied from the EHCs and/or clearly stated by reference to the relevant sections/paragraphs of the EHCs.
3. Any statements regarding **country or area freedom from notifiable diseases** which may be required in the final EHC do not need to be certified in the SHAs. They will be covered by an authority to certify notifiable disease clearance issued to, or obtainable by, the Official Veterinarian/Certifying Officer (e.g. via form 618NDC).
4. Veterinarians should note that in attesting compliance with the conditions from a destination country in paragraph 3(a), they are also endorsing that any establishments which have handled the animal products prior to that point in the supply chain have:
	* the necessary approvals to export to the destination country (where this is required) and
	* have undertaken any specific measures required by the destination country, i.e. such as testing or segregation of the product
5. Veterinarians must therefore satisfy themselves that this is the case from available SHAs or other documents, as necessary.

**7. Approval to Export to Specific Importing Countries** (paragraph 3(b) refers)

1. This does not need to be a comprehensive list but must include the necessary approval/listings required for the relevant EHC(s) in paragraph 3(a).
2. For EU listed establishments state 'EU listed'
3. Some importing countries require that establishments are specifically approved for exports to that country in addition to being approved under UK national legislation. Different importing countries may require:
* only national approval
* importing country approval of all establishments in the supply chain, e.g. from slaughterhouse through to cold storage and dispatch
* importing country approval only up to a certain point in the supply chain
1. If required, veterinarians signing the SHA must check the relevant EHC, NFG and where necessary, an import permit obtained by the exporter, so that necessary approval numbers are included in paragraph 3(b). If in doubt, veterinarians should contact APHA CITC for advice.