Wednesday 26 June 2024

Stewards' Notice

Greyhounds Australasia Rules (GAR)

Amendments to the GAR, *effective 1 July 2024*

Greyhounds Australasia (GA) advises amendments to the following *Greyhounds Australasia Rules* (GAR):

- **GAR 138 (e)** Meaning of exempted substance - (Cyclosporin, Tacrolimus, Oclacitinib, Lokivetmab)
- **GAR 139 (1)(n)** Permanently banned prohibited substances, and certain offences in relation to them - (Typographical amendment "FG-4592")
- **GAR 140 (h)** Prohibited Substances subject to a threshold - (Prednisolone)
- **GAR 146 (6)(g)** Therapeutic substances and screening limits - (Ketoprofen); and
- **GAR 147 (6)(d)** Residue substances and residue limits - (Procaine).

The complete rules are displayed below with amendments highlighted:

138 Meaning of *exempted substance*

An *exempted substance* includes the following substances*:*

(a) ethyloestrenol or norethisterone when *administered* orally to a female *greyhound* and where it has been prescribed by a *veterinarian* for the sole purpose of regulating or preventing oestrus in a female *greyhound*.

(b) antimicrobials (antibiotics) and other anti-infective agents with the exception of procaine penicillin.

(c) antiparasitics approved and registered for the use on canines, with the exception of levamisole and its metabolites when detected in a *sample* taken from a *greyhound*.

(d) vaccines against infectious agents.

(e) cyclosporin, tacrolimus, oclacitinib or lokivetmab when *administered* to a *greyhound* as an immunomodifier and where it has been prescribed by a *veterinarian* for the sole purpose of treating or preventing a chronic condition in a *greyhound* including superficial chronic keratitis (pannus) or allergic/atopic dermatitis. *(Update effective 01.07.2024)*

139 *Permanently banned prohibited substances*, and certain offences in relation to them

(1) The following *prohibited substances*, or any metabolite, isomer or artefact of any of them are deemed to be *permanently banned prohibited substances*:

(a) any substance capable of disguising or making undetectable, or being used in an attempt to disguise or make undetectable, the *administration* or presence of any *permanently banned prohibited substance*.

(b) erythropoiesis-stimulating agents, including but not limited to erythropoietin (EPO), epoetin alfa, epoetin beta, epoetin delta, epoetin omega, novel erythropoiesis stimulating protein (NESP; darbepoietin alfa), and

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methoxy polyethylene glycol-epoetin beta (Mircera) and other continuous erythropoietin receptor activators.

(c) gonadotropins, including luteinising hormone (LH), follicle stimulating hormone (FSH), human chorionic gonadotropin (hCG) and equine chorionic gonadotropin (eCG); pregnant mare serum gonadotropin (PMSG).

(d) Gonadotropin releasing hormone (GnRH) including synthetic analogues, modulators or agonists (including but not limited to gonadorelin, buserelin, deslorelin, goserelin, leuprorelin, narfarelin and triptorelin).

(e) corticotropins, including adrenocorticotropic hormone (ACTH) and tetracosactrin (tetracosactide).

(f) substances listed in Schedule 8 and Schedule 9 of the *Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Medicines and Poisons* contained in the Australian *Poisons Standard* (Cth) as amended from time to time. Notwithstanding that, the substances buprenorphine, butorphanol, fentanyl, hydromorphone, ketamine, methadone, morphine, oxymorphone, pethidine, and their metabolites, isomers and artefacts, are excepted from the provisions of subrule (1)(f) of this rule when *administered* in accordance with applicable Commonwealth, state and territory legislation by a *veterinarian* for pain relief, sedation or anaesthesia (but would be a *prohibited substance*).

(g) diacetylmorphine (heroin), benzoylmethylecgonine (cocaine), cannabinoids and lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD), gammahydroxybutyric acid (GHB) and its salts and amphetamines including amphetamine, methylamphetamine and methylenedioxy-methamphetamine (MDMA).

(h) insulins and insulin-like growth factor-1.

(i) growth hormones and their releasing factors.

(j) selective receptor modulators including but not limited to selective androgen receptor modulators (SARMS), selective estrogen receptor modulators (SERMS), selective opiate receptor modulars (SORMS) and selective glucocorticoid receptor agonists.

(k) peroxisome proliferator activated receptor δ (PPARδ) agonists, including but not limited to GW 1516.

(l) AMPK activators, including but not limited to AICAR (5-amino-1-β Dribofuranosyl-imidazole-4-carboxamide).

(m) other agents that directly or indirectly affect or manipulate gene expression.

(n) hypoxia inducible factor (HIF)-1 stabilisers, including but not limited to cobalt and FG-4592, and hypoxia inducible factor (HIF) activators including but not limited to argon and xenon.

(o) agents modifying myostatin function, including but not limited to myostatin inhibitors.

(p) oxygen carriers including but not limited to perfluorochemicals, efaproxiral and modified haemoglobin products.

(q) thymosin beta.

(r) venoms of any species or derivatives of them.

(s) synthetic proteins and peptides and synthetic analogues of endogenous proteins and peptides not registered for medical or veterinary use in Australia or New Zealand.

(t) anabolic androgenic steroids excluding those that are defined as an *exempted substance* pursuant to *the Rules*.

(u) non-erythropoietic EPO receptor agonists.

(v) allosteric effectors of haemoglobin, including but not limited to ITPP (myo-inositol trispyrophosphate).

(w) haemotopoietic growth factors, including but not limited to filgrastim.

(x) hydrocortisone (excluding registered topical preparations when *administered* topically).

(Update effective 01.07.2024)

140 *Prohibited Substances* subject to a threshold

In addition to the *exempted substances*, a substance is not a *prohibited substance* for certain offences identified in *these Rules* if detected at or below the following thresholds in a *sample* of the specified *sample* type:

(a) testosterone as evidenced by the presence of 5β-androstane-3α, 17β-diol at or below a concentration of 10 nanograms per millilitre in a *sample* of urine taken from a female *greyhound*;

(b) testosterone as evidenced by the presence of 5β-androstane-3α, 17β-diol at or below a concentration of 100 nanograms per millilitre in a *sample* of urine taken from a male *greyhound*;

(c) ethanol as evidenced by the presence of ethyl glucuronide and ethyl sulphate at or below a concentration of 20 micrograms per millilitre in a *sample* of urine taken from a *greyhound*;

(d) hydrocortisone (cortisol) at or below a mass concentration of 1000 nanograms per millilitre in a *sample* of urine taken from a *greyhound*;

(e) 3-methoxytyramine at or below a mass concentration of 1600 nanograms per millilitre in a *sample* of urine taken from a *greyhound*;

(f) cobalt at or below a mass concentration of 100 nanograms per millilitre in a *sample* of urine taken from a *greyhound*;

(g) arsenic at or below a mass concentration of 800 nanograms per millilitre in a *sample* of urine taken from a *greyhound*; and

(h) prednisolone at or below a mass concentration of 50 nanograms per millilitre in a *sample* of urine taken from a *greyhound*.

(Update effective 01.07.2024)

146 *Therapeutic substances* and *screening limits*

(1) A *therapeutic substance* for the purpose of *the Rules* and the *screening limit* applicable to the *therapeutic substance* or its specified metabolite, is to be *published* from time to time by a *Controlling Body*.

(2) For analysis for a *therapeutic substance* in a *sample* taken from a *greyhound*, there must be an initial screening test or screening analysis of the *sample*.

(3) As a minimum requirement, the initial screening test or screening analysis must be conducted by an *approved laboratory* in accordance with the following procedure:

(a) the relevant biological matrix, equivalent in volume to the portion of the *sample* being tested, is to have added to it a quantity of the *therapeutic substance* or its specified metabolite, sufficient to bring its concentration to the *screening limit* specified for that *therapeutic substance* - this is known as the "spiked *sample*" and is to be analysed concurrently with the *sample*;

(b) the portion of the *sample* is then to be tested to determine whether or not it contains a quantity of the *therapeutic substance* or its specified metabolite that exceeds that *screening limit*, by making a direct comparison with the spiked *sample*;

(c) if the *screening limit* is not exceeded, the detection of the *therapeutic substance* in the *sample* is not to be reported on a *certificate of analysis*;

(d) if the *screening limit* is exceeded, then the *sample* is to be further tested in accordance with normal laboratory procedures designed to certify the presence of the *therapeutic substance* in the *sample*.

(4) The *screening limit* testing provided for in this rule is not intended to and does not operate to mean that for the purpose of *the Rules* the relevant *therapeutic substance* only becomes a *prohibited substance* if and when the *screening limit* is exceeded.

(5) It is no defence to an alleged offence under *the Rules* that the result of any initial screening test or screening analysis should have been below the *screening limit* for the *therapeutic substance* in question.

(6) The following *screening limits* apply:

(a) butylscopolamine at a mass concentration of 1 nanogram per millilitre in a *sample* of plasma or 10 nanograms per millilitre in a *sample* of urine

(b) carprofen at a mass concentration of 20 nanograms per millilitre in a *sample* of plasma or 5 nanograms per millilitre in a *sample* of urine;

(c) dexamethasone at a mass concentration of 200 picograms per millilitre in a *sample* of plasma or urine;

(d) firocoxib at a mass concentration of 2 nanograms per millilitre in a *sample* of plasma or urine;

(e) flunixin at a mass concentration of 1 nanograms per millilitre in a *sample* of plasma or 50 nanograms per millilitre in a *sample* of urine;

(f) meloxicam at a mass concentration of 5 nanograms per millilitre in a *sample* of plasma or 2 nanograms per millilitre in a *sample* of urine; and

(g) ketoprofen at a mass concentration of 5 nanograms per millilitre in a *sample* of plasma or 10 nanograms per millilitre in a *sample* of urine.

(Update effective 01.07.2024)

147 *Residue substances* and *residue limits*

(1) A *residue substance* for the purpose of *the Rules* and the *residue limit* applicable to the *residue substance* or its specified metabolite, is to be *published* from time to time by a *Controlling Body*.

(2) For analysis for a *residue substance* in a *sample* taken from a *greyhound*, there must be an initial screening test or screening analysis of the *sample*.

(3) As a minimum requirement, the initial screening test or screening analysis must be conducted by an *approved laboratory* in accordance with the following procedure:

(a) the relevant biological matrix, equivalent in volume to the portion of the *sample* being tested, is to have added to it a quantity of the *residue substance* or its specified metabolite, sufficient to bring its concentration to the *residue limit* specified for that *residue substance* - this is known as the "spiked *sample*" and is to be analysed concurrently with the *sample*;

(b) the portion of the *sample* is then to be tested to determine whether or not it contains a quantity of the *residue substance* or its specified metabolite that exceeds that *residue limit*, by making a direct comparison with the spiked *sample*;

(c) if the *residue limit* is not exceeded, the detection of the *residue substance* in the *sample* is not to be reported on a *certificate of analysis*;

(d) if the *residue limit* is exceeded, then the *sample* is to be further tested in accordance with normal laboratory procedures designed to certify the presence of the *residue substance* in the *sample*.

(4) The *residue limit* testing provided for in this rule is not intended to and does not operate to mean that for the purpose of *the Rules* the relevant *residue substance* only becomes a *prohibited substance* if and when the *residue limit* is exceeded.

(5) It is no defence to an alleged offence under *the Rules* that the result of any initial screening test or screening analysis should have been below the *residue limit* for the *residue substance* in question.

(6) The following *residue limits* apply**:**

(a) ketamine as evidenced by dehydronorketamine at a mass concentration of 500 picograms per millilitre in a *sample* of plasma or 100 nanograms per millilitre in a *sample* of urine;

(b) morphine at a mass concentration of 200 nanograms per millilitre in a *sample* of urine;

(c) xylazine at a mass concentration of 50 picograms per millilitre in a *sample* of plasma or xylazine as evidenced by 4-hydroxy xylazine at a mass concentration of 5 nanograms per millilitre in a *sample* of urine;

(d) procaine at a mass concentration of 5 nanograms per millilitre in a *sample* of plasma or 200 nanograms per millilitre in a *sample* of urine.

(Update effective 01.07.2024)

FURTHER INFORMATION

If you would like further information about the amendments and how they affect you, please email des.jonas@grsa.com.au