



GREYHOUNDS AUSTRALASIA GUIDELINES IN RELATION TO COMPLIANCE WITH RULE 148

National FAQ – Unregistered products and Explanatory Note and Enforcement Guideline in relation to rule 148

New GAR 148 deals with the circumstances in which a person can possess certain substances. In part, the rule makes it an offence to be in possession of any *prohibited substance, exempted substance* or other substance (including any other medication, medicine, injectable substance, supplement, herbal product or therapeutic good) that:

- is not registered by the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) (GAR148(1)(a));
- is not registered with the APVMA except where the APVMA has granted a permit to use the substance on canines (GAR148(1)(b));
- is a compounded substance except where all active ingredients are registered by the APVMA (GAR 148(d)v.A.); and
- is a compounded substance except where if not registered with the APVMA, all active ingredients are the subject of a permit issued by the APVMA to permit the use of the substance on canines (GAR148(d)v.B.).

The rule does not require any product or substance that is not a “*veterinary chemical product*” (as “*veterinary chemical product*” as defined in section 5 of the *Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code (the Code)*) to be registered with the APVMA to be possessed in compliance with rule 148.

The intention of the rule is to ensure that participants are not in possession of, or manufacturing or creating their own, compounds or substances which are currently regulated products or which would be required to be registered (such as any injectable products including antibiotics, anti-inflammatories, tonics, or muscle/ligament repair agents).

It is not the purpose of the rule, or the intent of the relevant Controlling Bodies, to prosecute for the possession of appropriate vitamins or electrolytes that are appropriately identified (by way of labelling) in some normal foodstuffs.

It is also not the purpose of the rule (or the goal of enforcement of it), to target items that have no requirement to be registered, including items that may contain prohibited substances (e.g. coffee, tea, or chocolate for personal use), or other products exempt from being required to be registered with the APVMA including excluded nutritional or digestive (END) products.

In relation to manufactured goods and products, participants should always be careful and make their own enquiries directly with manufacturer or with the APVMA if they have any concerns about specific substances that may be in breach of rule 148. If you otherwise have any concerns about using a particular substance or compound please contact your local Controlling Body for clarification.

Further, in respect of a product or substance which is a “*veterinary chemical product*” and so needs to be registered with the APVMA but is not yet, or where there is doubt about whether it has to be registered with the APVMA, it is GA’s position that the fact a person or organisation is seeking a technical assessment by or registration of a product or substance with the APVMA is, in the ordinary course, a relevant factor for a Controlling Body or Steward in determining whether to commence any action for possible breach of rule 148.

GA has communicated this position to Controlling Bodies, who ultimately retain the discretion whether to proceed with prosecutions under rule 148.

(Dated: 8 November, 2022)