

## Important Information for Pharmacists stocking CBD Food Supplements

### CBD Novel Food Deadline – March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021

**CBD** is considered a **Novel Food** by UK & European regulators. While many CBD products remain on the market, they have not yet been authorised by authorities. CBD was placed on the Novel Foods Catalogue in January of 2019, meaning that the ingredient now requires pre-market authorisation. The FSA transition period for CBD products to become compliant expires 31st March 2021.

#### Are you currently stocking CBD Food Supplements?

The deadline for CBD products to demonstrate they are aligned with a valid Novel Food application is fast approaching. Every food supplement containing CBD **may be removed from shelves** by Trading Standards after **March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021** if not aligned with a validated application.

From the 1<sup>st</sup> April, Trading Standards Officers, acting on instruction from the UK Food Standards Agency (FSA) may remove unvalidated products without recourse to the retailer or brand. Your suppliers have a duty to make you aware of this and provide evidence of compliance.

#### How can you protect yourselves from enforcement?

To help keep you protected, we have armed you with 3 questions to establish the legal status of any CBD Food Supplement product being sold in the UK.



**Establishing a Legal CBD Food Product**

Is the product aligned with a Novel Food Application? If successfully 'validated' the brand will be publicly named on the FSA web site and should be able to show you this.

Does the product carry statutory protection from enforcement? A brand should be able to supply a copy of any such assurance granted by the relevant local Primary Authority.

Has the product been screened for controlled drugs (THC, THCa, THCv & CBN) by an independent & UKAS accredited laboratory?

Your supplier should be able to provide evidence for all of the above. If they cannot, you need to consider if your current and future stock of CBD is at risk of removal from shelves from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021.

For further advice or guidance on the matter, feel free to reach out to our subject experts already successfully navigating such complex regulatory pathways in the UK.

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