



## **Brexit No-Deal – Q and A for UK website**

### **Introduction**

As the biggest insulin supplier in the UK and with 95 years of innovation in diabetes care, Novo Nordisk is committed to ensuring patients' medicine supplies are unaffected whatever the outcome of Brexit. We supply over half of the UK's insulins and our life-saving medicines are used by over half a million people in the UK. Our first priority is that our patients receive the care and treatment that they need.

### **What are Novo Nordisk's plans to ensure insulin is available in the UK, if we leave Europe without a deal?**

Novo Nordisk has been preparing for Brexit for four years and has planned for all future contingencies. We have 18 weeks of stock (3.8 million packs), pre-booked airfreight slots and organised additional ferry routes to bring all our essential and lifesaving medicines into the UK. We have taken measures to minimise any potential disruptions, including those outlined in the Government's Yellowhammer report released in August.

### **How will a possible no deal affect insulin supplies coming into the country? Will you be able to meet patient demand?**

We have secured additional ferry routes, alongside the Dover-Calais route and we have also booked airfreight slots. We will continue to secure additional routes for as long as required. Our first commitment is to the people who need our medicines and treatments. We are confident that we have taken all possible steps to ensure we can continue to supply the patients we serve.

### **Will medicines expire on these new, alternative and possibly delayed routes?**

We have tested these freight routes and the technology of our cold storage systems to ensure our medicines will arrive in the UK in optimal condition.

Our medicines are transported in state-of-the-art cold storage systems to ensure that they can travel at necessary temperatures (2–8 degrees Celsius), for long periods of time. On average our insulin has 24–30 months shelf life. As part of our robust plans, Novo Nordisk are rotating stock, so the stock build is constantly being replenished.

### **Who are you working with to ensure Brexit plans are in place?**

We are constantly speaking with the Government, Department of Health, doctors, patient group representatives (such as Diabetes UK (DUK) and the Juvenile Diabetes Research Federation (JDRF)) and our industry trade association, the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry (ABPI), to ensure we have plans in place for all scenarios. We have been working on these plans for the last four years.

### **How much of Novo Nordisk's insulin is produced in the UK?**

We import our insulins from around the world, including Denmark, France, Brazil and the US. We currently have roughly 18 weeks' worth of all our portfolio stockpiled in the UK (3.8 million packs). This represents a two-and-a-half-fold increase to normal stock levels and a three times increase to our warehousing capacity. We are and will be continuously monitoring our stock levels to ensure that we are providing medicines to our patients, as this is our number one priority.