

## press release

### **Novo Nordisk UK prepared for Brexit outcomes**

**Gatwick, 14 September 2020**

At Novo Nordisk our first commitment is to ensure that patients treated with our medicines are able to access them, regardless of the outcome of Brexit.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic we have worked successfully with Government, NHS England and charities to ensure that the supply of medicines has remained consistent with the needs of patients and the NHS. The UK has benefitted through this period from having heightened Novo Nordisk medicines stocks in the country due to Brexit preparation.

Given the short timeframe until the end of the Brexit transition period in January 2021, it is critical that the Government works together with all parties including industry and the NHS, to redouble efforts to ensure the transition is as seamless as possible. Whilst we welcome the latest guidance from the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) published on 1 September which provides further information that will help us plan and prepare for the end of the transition, there still remain areas that require further clarity. Industry alone cannot solve the complexity of the post-Brexit environment that may arise after January 1<sup>st</sup> 2021. Key areas that still require attention include clarity around decentralised and mutual recognition procedures, variations to labels and the Northern Ireland protocol.

Pinder Sahota, Corporate Vice President of Novo Nordisk UK said, "Disease does not recognise, nor is hampered by, borders. Patients in the UK should not face issues accessing their existing medicines, irrespective of the outcomes of Brexit. Nor should they face delays in access to new and innovative medicines due to changes in the regulatory process. Novo Nordisk's purpose to defeat diabetes and other serious conditions is more important than ever before, and we will not tire in ensuring that the needs of the patients we serve are met."

Novo Nordisk supplies over half of the UK's insulins, which are used by over half a million people in the UK. We have been focused on our Brexit preparations for the past five years, ensuring we have elevated stock levels in the UK and identifying additional freight routes, should they be required.

-END-

### ***About Novo Nordisk***

*Novo Nordisk is a leading global healthcare company, founded in 1923 and headquartered in Denmark. Our purpose is to drive change to defeat diabetes and other serious chronic diseases such as obesity and rare blood and endocrine disorders. We do so by pioneering scientific breakthroughs, expanding access to our medicines and working to prevent and ultimately cure disease. Novo Nordisk employs about 43,500 people in 80 countries and markets its products in around 170 countries. For more information, visit [novonordisk.co.uk](http://novonordisk.co.uk)*

## **Further information**

*For further information, please contact:*

*Juliet Scott                      +44 (0)7557 490 116*

*[zjls@novonordisk.com](mailto:zjls@novonordisk.com)*

*Abby Purdy                        +44 (0)787 2506 607*

*[Abby.Purdy@syneoshealth.com](mailto:Abby.Purdy@syneoshealth.com)*