



## UVSA Adopts New Product Form to Enhance Supply Chain Optimization

In 2018, the United Veterinary Services Association (UVSA – formerly known as AVDA) established a task force comprised of UVSA distributors to help standardize a New Product/Item Form that distributors could use when they are asked by a supplier or manufacturer to add a New Product or Item to their systems. The goal of the new form was to optimize the supply chain by adopting a single form that would be endorsed and utilized by all in the animal health industry. A new form has been approved by the UVSA board and is being released to members this week. This form will help standardize the submission of new items or products by suppliers to distributors. This will be a huge advancement in supply chain optimization for all sectors of the industry.

Within the human health industry, the Healthcare Distribution Alliance (HDA) has already developed a standardized form for prescription items used in human health care. The purpose of their form is in alignment with UVSA. “The information conveyed about new products has critical downstream implications that can affect the appropriate receiving, handling and storage at the distributor’s facility and farther along the healthcare supply chain.”

<https://www.hda.org/resources/hda-standard-rx-product-information-form>

The primary aim of the UVSA New Product Form is to collect accurate and actionable item data to benefit manufacturers, suppliers, distributors, and ultimately veterinarians and their patients. By implementing the New Item Form, UVSA will fulfill a key part of its mission and will help distributors, manufacturers and suppliers remain relevant in the veterinary supply chain.

Benefits of the New Product/Item Set-up form include improvement in efficiency by reducing emails or phone calls back and forth between the manufacturer, supplier, distributor and customer. One form for all distributors captures information consistently for all stakeholders at once and allows for a quicker product turnaround because all the information is in one place. This will also make it easier to train new associates on one form rather than multiple submission processes.

There will also be cost savings to all in the supply chain as a result of the adoption of the new form. Costly mistakes resulting from improper storage, fines or penalties due to missing compliance information will be avoided by the use of the form. There will also be a reduction in the rate of product returns and liability to all stakeholders by providing an accurate “paper trail” of product data. Ultimately, the use of the new UVSA form should increase sales resulting from sales team’s confidence in accurate and reliable product information and will improve customer satisfaction with receiving the correct products more quickly.

UVSA will be hosting a webinar to unveil the form to members. The new form may also be accessed on the UVSA website at [www.uvsa.net](http://www.uvsa.net). For more information about the form and its implementation, contact Jackie King, UVSA Executive Director, [jackie@kingmgmt.org](mailto:jackie@kingmgmt.org) or 443-640-1040x105.