



Updated BIA Response to MHRA updates guidance following ‘no deal’ consultation

January 2019

Steve Bates OBE and CEO of the BIA said: “UK crashing out of the EU with no deal must be avoided –because a cliff-edge Brexit will negatively impact patients, public health and the life sciences sector. The UK and EU reaching a deal significantly improves the chance of stability and increased certainty for business. The UK’s life sciences industry has already endured considerable disruption, duplication and uncertainty, and it’s likely this will continue to be the case for the months ahead.

“We believe there is a parliamentary majority to protect medicines supply to patients, and parliamentarians share BIA members concerns about how medicines regulation will work in practice if there is a transition. The political declaration addresses many of the priorities that BIA (in coalition with others across Europe) has advocated for and parliament also sees value in ongoing science and innovation collaboration, cooperation for medicines regulation, a focus on future trade and customs and borders so we hope these are reflected in this week’s coming discussion.

“There is a long way to go from political discussion in parliament to an agreed future relationship with the EU, to a legally binding, effective and workable future framework. It remains vital patients are prioritised, and the BIA is committed to working on the detail that will matter to member companies in practice. And crucially, despite Brexit uncertainty, the UK biotech sector continues to deliver world-leading life science which continues to attract finance and talent from around the globe.”