

Launch of a new charity to improve veterinary medicines regulation worldwide

The VMD provides expert training programmes to build global capacity in responsible governance for the manufacture, distribution and use of safe and effective veterinary medicines. With like-minded aims, Safe Medicines for Animals through regulatory training [SMArt](#) is set to positively impact the welfare of animals, people and the environment.

As part of the UK Reference Centre for Antimicrobial Resistance, designated by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the VMD and Defra support SMArt as a new global partner working towards safeguarding animal and public health from the threat of Antimicrobial Resistance.

SMArt was launched on 11 March at a reception at the House of Lords attended by Ministers, senior government officials, and leaders in the pharmaceutical industry and representatives from major international charitable bodies: the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation; Flemming Fund; GALVmed, and Wellcome Trust.

The VMD Chief Executive Pete Borriello said “A key to unlocking the benefits of healthy livestock production and animal ownership, while protecting the environment and public health, is effective medicines regulations. SMArt will be able to make a critical contribution to developing this capability.”