

Description of the issue

The special provision 601 refers to the origin of the material, not to the content. That means that it is no more applicable once the product becomes a waste. In other words, once pharmaceuticals become a waste, they are no longer exempted from the ADR.

Current solutions at national level

A proposal of Multilateral agreement from Austria proposes several exemptions including the following one on medicines:

***Multilateral Agreement M329 under 1.5.1 ADR
on the carriage of certain wastes containing dangerous goods****5.2 Medicines*

Special provision 601 shall also apply if the pharmaceutical products (medicines) are no longer packed in packagings of a type intended to retail, sale or distribution, or are no longer intended for consumption.

Suggested amendment to the ADR:

Austrian proposal for further discussion and consideration

Justification

- There is no reason to nullify the exemption actually foreseen for pharmaceutical products once they are no more fit for use/sale/consumption but having to be discarded (incineration).
- In normal conditions, no increased risk in the waste phase than in the production and consumption phase