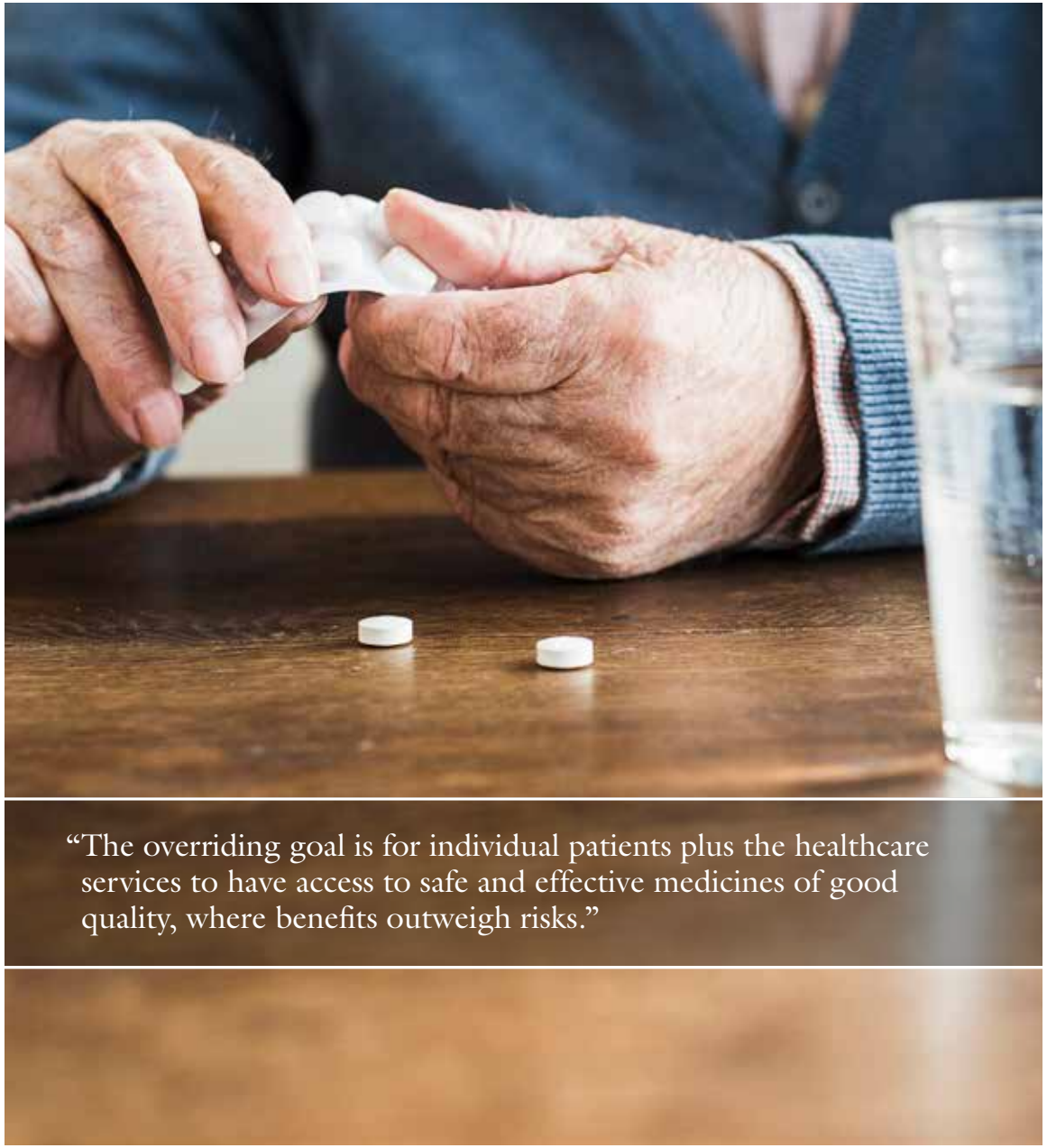

LÄKEMEDELSVERKET
SWEDISH MEDICAL PRODUCTS AGENCY
A leading force in the collaboration for better health



"The overriding goal is for individual patients plus the healthcare services to have access to safe and effective medicines of good quality, where benefits outweigh risks."

The Swedish Medical Products Agency (MPA) is a national expert agency operating under the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs with the task of promoting Swedish public and animal health. Our vision is to be a leading force in the collaboration for better health.

Broad social responsibility, many tasks

The agency's mission encompasses a broad social responsibility. Our work on the approval, supervision and control of medicines, plus our advisory services, help promote and develop patient safety as well as public and animal health.

The overriding goal is for individual patients plus the healthcare services to have access to safe and effective medicines of good quality, where benefits outweigh risks. Our mission also includes supporting healthcare and pharmacies in promoting improved drug use as well as developing ways to monitor the use and effects of new drugs. In addition, we work to reduce the environmental impact of medicines.

The MPA's supervisory role also covers manufacturers and products within medical technology, cosmetic products, tattooing inks and the trade in illegal drugs. We also licence and supervise pharmacy operations in Sweden. In addition, we support research and innovation within the agency's areas of responsibility.

The Drug Information Centre, a unit within the MPA organisation, answers questions from the general public about medicines. The agency is also responsible for the Swedish Poisons Information Centre that, among other duties, supports healthcare in general by assisting both the public and medical professionals with treatment advice in cases of suspected poisoning.

The agency has about 800 employees with the largest staff groups comprising pharmacists and physicians. Its activities are largely financed by fees, with additional funding coming from state appropriations and grants.

A leading force in Europe – for the benefit of Swedish public and animal health

Thanks to a conscious strategic effort since joining the EU in 1995, the MPA has achieved a strong position both in European cooperation as well as in the global arena. We have a continued strong influence in EU cooperation, which is important since this presence enables important knowledge transfer to our national arenas. This know-how benefits Swedish public and animal health at the same time as it helps maintain a high level of competence at the agency.

In collaboration for better health

MPA experts are active in a large number of strategic groups, both nationally and internationally. Examples of key areas of cooperation include:

- Surveillance of medicines in Sweden and in the EU.
- Medicines appropriate for children, patients with rare diagnoses and cancer diseases.
- Medicines for treating or preventing infectious diseases.
- Limitation and classification issues regarding medicines and other closely-related products.
- Toxins in products under MPA responsibility that may affect public and animal health and the environment.
- Supervision of medical technology and national medical information systems.
- Promote health and well-being (UN's sustainability goal No. 3, Agenda 2030).

Medical Products Agency areas of responsibility:

- Authorisation, supervision and control of medical products for humans and animals throughout the product life cycle, i.e. before, during and after approval.
- Approval of marketing authorisation for a medicine prescribed by licence.
- Supervision of manufacturers and products in medical technology, cosmetics, tattooing inks and combating the trade in illegal drugs.
- Issuing regulations within the agency's sanctioned areas of authority.
- Knowledge-base on drug treatment.
- Drug information for the general public.
- Poisons information for the general public and healthcare services.
- Authorisation and supervision of pharmacy operations in Sweden.
- Coordination of the work within the National Drugs Strategy (NLS).
- Contributing to Sweden achieving its next-generation goals for the environment as well as its environmental quality objectives.

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