

Responsible Drug Use – PPT Script

Animal Health

Introduction

Welcome, and introduce yourself and do any housekeeping items. Bathrooms, cellphones, attendance/participation, etc.

1. Responsible Drug Use includes:

Just like people, animals sometimes get sick and need medicine to get better. But it's not as simple as just giving them a shot or some other type of medication. Treating our livestock with medications is the right way helps keep our animals healthy, keeps our food safe to eat, and protects the effectiveness of those medicines for the future.

The 4 main pieces about responsible drug use with production animals are:

- Establishing and keeping a current Veterinarian/Client/Patient/Relationship (VCPR)
- Understanding different drug classes and their requirements
- Recognizing drug use and using them properly
- Using Antibiotics responsibly

2. Veterinarian/Client/Patient Relationship (VCPR)

This is important to establish in order to help:

- Manage the health of your project animal(s)
- Prevention of drug residues

It is required for prescription drugs, Veterinary Feed Directives (VFDs), compounding, and extra-label drug use.

3. Veterinarian/Client/Patient Relationship (VCPR)

A VCPR is also important, so you are working with a vet who understands your goals and requirements of your animal project. If your animal were to need treatment for some reason the vet knows this animal is a fair animal has time requirements when it comes to exhibition so they can select the medication that best suits their needs.

4. VCPR

Researching vets in your area and asking others who they use, and their experiences are a great way to start in finding a vet. Find a vet you are comfortable with asking questions and have experience in your species area. You can share the importance of establishing a VCPR by some of these options that would also be a great learning experience for everyone.

5. Knowledge Check

What does VCPR stand for?

- A. Veterinarian/Customer Private Relationship
- B. Veterinarian/Client/Patient Relationship
- C. Veterinarian/Client Protected Relationship

Answer: B. Veterinarian/Client/Patient Relationship

VCPR stands for Veterinarian/Client/Patient/Relationship

As a review think of it this way: It has to do with YOUR Vet, the client (YOU), the patient (YOUR animal), and the relationship that has been established between all of those involved in the animal's care.

6. Basic Classes of Drugs

Here are two basic categories of medications for us to remember.

First is OTC- does anyone know what OTC stand for?

- OTC stands for Over the Counter Drugs/Medications – these can be freely purchased by producers and do not need a vet's approval to purchase and use. They can typically be purchased at Farm Supply Stores, online, and other locations without a prescription from the vet.

Our second class is Rx or Prescription Drugs. – does that mean for this category of medications?

- Prescription Drugs must have a written prescription from your Veterinarian that is part of your VCPR. They can be purchased or given by your vet – you can also purchase some meds online with the vets written script. It is the law that these must be use only under the written directive from a vet.

7. Veterinary Feed Directive (VFD)

- For certain antimicrobial drugs used in/on the feed to treat disease in the food animal industry
- Must have a VFD to feed the product if listed as a medically important antibiotic
- Extra-label use NOT permitted even under the direction of a licensed veterinarian
- A veterinarian cannot add additional time or change how the feed is fed. The directions of the Veterinary Feed Directive must be followed. This is not a prescription that a veterinarian can adjust.
- The use of this drug or combination of drugs is only permitted to be used in accordance with the conditions of use approved by the FDA.
 - https://www.michigan.gov/-/media/Project/Websites/mdard/documents/animals/vfd/mums_handout.pdf?rev=1f1cc3817f9b41588921600e5e554370
- Beginning in June 2023, livestock owners won't be able to buy medically important over-the-counter antibiotics for their animals. That means owners will need to have a veterinary-client-patient relationship, or VCPR, in order to get antibiotics like penicillin, oxytetracycline and erythromycin. The new guidance does not require livestock owners to purchase antibiotics through their veterinarian. Online pharmacies can be used as long as they have a prescription.

8. Knowledge Check

Who determines whether or not a drug is OTC or Rx?

- A. United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)
- B. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
- C. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Answer: B. FDA

9. Knowledge Check

What basic class of drug is described?

- You have a calf that has scours. You decide to purchase an anti-diarrheal that does not require a prescription or a Veterinary Feed Directive (VFD) at the feed store to help your calf. You talk with your vet after purchasing the drug and follow the dosing instructions on the package.

Answer: Over the Counter

10. Types of Drug Use: Label Use / Off Label Use

Label Use means that you follow the dosing instructions exactly as they are written.

- You may not give more than the labeled dosage.
- You may not give for a species other than what is permitted by the label. (ie. If labeled for horses, you cannot legally give to your cattle)
- You must give it through the route of administration that it is labeled for. (ie. Provide 10cc SQ means you cannot give 10cc IM)

Off Label means that you are using the drug differently than the label prescribes WITHOUT the acceptable guidance and direction of a veterinarian. (which would be considered extra-label)

- Giving the medication orally when it was supposed to be given IM, or through another route.
- Dosing the animal with an amount different than what the label states.
- Giving the medication to a species other than what the medication is labeled for.

Off Label is illegal!

11. Types of Drug Use: Extra Label Drug Use

- Using a drug in a manner not in accordance with the approved drug labeling, but WITH the guidance of a veterinarian.
- Examples of extra label drug use:
 - Increased dosage
 - Changing route of administration
 - Changing length of treatment
 - Treating a disease or condition NOT listed on the label
 - Treating a species NOT listed on the label
- The Animal Medicinal Drug Use Clarification Act of 1994 (AMDUCA) is what permits Veterinarians today to have this option. Prior to this act, it was illegal for a veterinarian to use a drug in this manner.

- This does not give the veterinarian the option to use this as his/her first choice.
- The veterinarian must first be sure that there is not a drug available that is labeled for the species and condition that must be treated. If there is not an acceptable drug available, or the veterinarian does not believe that the available labeled drug is acceptable for the conditions he or she may then prescribe a drug extra-label.
- Prescribing Extra-Label can be challenging for withdrawal and needs to be carefully considered when used. The animal must be carefully tracked to make sure that it does not enter the food chain early.
- Extra label drug use can only be recommended by veterinarians. A producer cannot legally use a drug in a manner other than what is written on its label. If a producer does this without a veterinarian's involvement, it is called "off label" drug use and is ILLEGAL.
- "Extra Label" is the term used for drugs that are being used in a manner besides their specific use as given on the label.
- A drug may become "extra label" for several reasons....
 1. Your veterinarian may tell you to give your pig more medicine than the label states.
 2. Your veterinarian may tell you to give your pig medicine more frequently than the label states.
 3. Your veterinarian may tell you to stop giving the drug after a certain period of time.
 4. Your veterinarian may prescribe a treatment for a disease other than stated on the label.
 5. Your veterinarian may prescribe a drug for your pig that is not labeled for use in pigs. (This is only done if it is a logical choice and if label use of an approved swine drug is not available.)
- Extra label basically refers to any use of the drug besides what is printed on its label and again, can only be prescribed by a veterinarian.

12. Knowledge Check

Is this an acceptable practice and why or why not?

- You use Ivermectin that you purchased at the feed store to de-worm your animal. You decide to INCREASE the dosage above what the label recommends to make sure that all the parasites are gone.

Answer: NO!

Why Not? This would be Off-Label Use.

In order to be considered Extra-Label, you must have permissions from your veterinarian.

Reminder! An off label drug use is illegal and can have massive negative consequences when it comes to drug residue and withdrawal times.

13. Compounding of Animal Drugs

- When a licensed veterinarian mixes two or more FDA-approved drugs together in a bottle or syringe
 - A veterinarian cannot direct you to mix the drugs. He/she must do this for you.
- Withdrawal times are of concern so this practice should only be done by a veterinarian
- This action is ILLEGAL for anyone other than a veterinarian.

14. Antibiotic Use in Food Animal Production

Antibiotics are important tools that help keep our animals healthy by fighting infections and preventing the spread of disease. Healthy animals mean safer, higher-quality food products like meat, milk, and eggs.

But, using antibiotics the right way is very important. If they're used too often or incorrectly, bacteria can become resistant — meaning those antibiotics might not work when animals or even people really need them.

Understanding why antibiotics are used in livestock, how producers and veterinarians make responsible decisions about them, and what's being done to protect both animal health and human health.

By understanding how antibiotics fit into animal care, we can see how good management, smart decisions, and responsibility all play a role in producing safe and healthy food for everyone.

15. Antibiotic Use in Food Animal Production

Taking the proper steps is the most important in responsible antibiotic use and preventing the need to use them!

- This makes BIOSECURITY for front of your animal care and disease prevention. By having strict and purposeful biosecurity rules for yourself and others who will in your animal's environment. This way you do not bring outside threats in or take any out of your barn. While keeping sick animals away from the rest of the herd or flock.
- Proper Ventilation prevents stagnant and stale air that would cause harm to an animal's lungs and their immune system. Allowing fresh air exchange is a key component of a good pen/home for your animal.
- Nutrition is the building blocks of your animal's immune system. Having good nutrition allows the body to fight off threats such as disease. Having proper nutrition and fresh water makes an animal much stronger and able to fight off any threats to their health. Animals with poor nutrition will be missing basic needs for their immune system and are much more susceptible to disease and needing antibiotics.
- Talk with your vet about proper and necessary vaccinations for your project and staying up to date on what is needed.

It is much cheaper to PREVENT disease than treat it.

16. Antibiotic Use in Food Animal Production

Keeping animals' health and happy has different parts and pieces but the their health and welfare are also big factors in keep them healthy. The welfare of your animal should always in the highest priority. If you always have their welfare in mind, they will ultimately be healthy and happy. Welfare meets all their needs such as space, nutrition, enrichment, and environment.

- Food and Water –to stay healthy and strong.
- Shelter – a safe and comfortable place to live.
- Health Care – medicine and attention when they're sick or hurt.
- Kind Treatment – gentle handling and respect.
- The Ability to Act Naturally – room to move around and do things animals like to do.

Their environment needs to be clean, dry and have proper space. If you wouldn't drink from the bucket, it is not clean enough, if you wouldn't sit down where they must lay down it is not clean enough. Keeping their environment clean and dry also helps in the long run with not only health by show prep. The cleaner the pen the cleaner the animal.

Food Safety is a guarantee we have to consumer/public. They expect to purchase safe and wholesome products that come from a healthy animal who lives a good life. We owe it to the animal and the consumer to hold ourselves to the highest standards of animal production. If we were not to meet the standards of a safe and wholesome product it would affect how the public views animal agriculture.

17. Antibiotic Use in Food Animal Production

Overall, the use of antibiotics may be necessary when caring for our animals. We want to reduce the number of animals we lose to sickness when antibiotics can help them recover.

It is also part of the welfare to help the animals with treating sickness they cannot combat with their own immune system. Just like humans sometimes we need a little extra boost from a doctor's medication to help us recover.

And we do not want sickness to spread to the rest of the herd and that ultimately costs us more in the long run to treat all the animals rather than 1 patient.

18. Antibiotic Use in Food Animal Production

Keeping accurate records will be key in keeping animals healthy and producing a safe product. Being able to permanently identify animals will help with tracking and tracing of medications and sickness over time.

Use medications indicated on the label or written by the vet. Do not change or alter in any manner.

Also consult your vet and keep a Valid VCPR

19. Antibiotic Use in Food Animal Production

STEP 5: Have a working VCPR and follow the responsible antibiotic use guidelines.

- Use veterinary input as the basis for ALL antibiotic decision making
- Antibiotics should be used only when there is an appropriate clinical diagnosis or herd history to justify their use
- Limit antibiotic use for prevention, control, or treatment to ill or at-risk animals, treating the fewest animals possible.
- Antibiotics that are important in treating infections in human medicine should be used only after careful review and with good reason
- Mixing injectable or water medications by anyone other than a veterinarian is illegal.
- Minimize environmental exposure through proper handling and disposal of all animal health products.

20. Knowledge Check

What are appropriate uses of antibiotics in food animal production? (select all the apply)

- A. Increased average daily gain
- B. Treatment of disease
- C. Control of disease
- D. Prevention of disease

Answer: B, C, & D

Your goal as a producer is to only use antibiotics when necessary. It is expensive to treat animals with antibiotics, so prevention is key and much cheaper. Treat animals on time and when necessary and giving proper care, then acting, when necessary, will help keep your animals and herd healthy.

21. Knowledge Check

True or False: Do not limit antibiotic use to ill or at-risk animals; treat as many animals as possible.

Answer: False

Treat animals only when necessary and only treat those who are in need. Separate sickness from the rest of the group and utilize daily observation and written records to best track your animals and their treatments.

22. Let's Reflect

Does anyone have any questions? Let's reflect on what we have learned.

Can someone tell me something they learned or something important that they should remember from today?