


Understanding the Veterinary Feed Directive

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In the News

Veterinary Feed Directive coming soon to an antibiotic you may use

Pay close attention to Veterinary Feed Directive regulations
University specialist advises producers to begin discussing antibiotics changes with their veterinarians

Veterinary Feed Directive Raises Concerns for Cattle Raisers

Producers prep for antibiotic change


Veterinary Feed Directive: Assurance of safe product benefits entire industry



Why has the FDA developed the VFD?

- Concern for antibiotic resistance associated with daily antibiotic use in animal feeds.
- VFD allows vital feed antibiotic use in livestock to protect their health and well-being.
 - "Prevention", "control" and "treatment" of bacterial diseases


What exactly is a VFD?
A written order (paper or electronic) by a licensed veterinarian in the course of their practice approving the use of a VFD medication.



What drugs will be affected?

- Only antibiotics that are administered in the feed or water - **Not injectables!**
 - Fed antibiotics will require a VFD
 - Antibiotics in the water will require a Rx - may be use Extra-Label with Vet consent
 - There is no legal use of in-feed drugs other than as provided for on the label
- Only antibiotics considered "Medically Important to humans"
 - Ionophores, parasite control, insect control or repro control not medically important, so they won't be affected
- Over the counter (OTC)


* Changing the marketing status from OTC to VFD or Rx



Current and Future VFD Drugs


Currently Approved VFD Drugs		Approved for Use in the Following Major Species	
	Avilamycin		Swine
	Florfenicol		Swine
	Timicosin		Cattle, Swine
Ingredient Class	Drugs Changing from OTC to VFD in 2017	Approved for Uses in the Following Major Species	
	Asiramycin		Swine
	Neomycin		Cattle, Swine
	Lincomycin		Swine, Chickens
	Erythromycin		Swine, Chickens, Turkeys
	Chlaramycin		Swine, Chickens, Turkeys
	Tylosin		Cattle, Swine, Chickens
	Penicillin		Swine, Chickens
	Virginiamycin		Cattle, Swine, Chickens
	Sulfamerazine		(minor species only)
	Sulfamonomixin		Chickens, Turkeys
	Chlortetracycline		Cattle, Calves, Swine, Chickens, Turkeys
	Oxytetracycline		Cattle, Calves, Swine, Chickens, Turkeys

*Slide courtesy of Craig A. Lewis, FDA



What is the timeline?

- Oct 1, 2015 - the VFD rule went into effect for the currently approved VFD medications.
- Jan 2017 - labels will be changed changing other OTC medicated feeds considered medically important to VFD approved medications.



What does it mean for producers?

1. **Must have a relationship with a licensed veterinarian (VCPR)**
 - A. FDA and State's Agency that regulates Veterinary Licensure defines regulations on "Veterinary Client Patient Relationship"
 - i. Familiar with the care and management cattle receive by client and be able to make a preliminary diagnosis of targeted concern
 - ii. Willing to assume responsibility and client is willing to follow veterinarians Instructions
 - iii. Willing to provide treatment oversight & follow-up evaluation and case management
 - iv. Case and treatment records are maintained and evaluated by the vet
2. **Visit Veterinarian before VFD feed is needed**
3. **Visit Feed distributor about details for obtaining VFD feed**

What does it mean for producers?

- Your veterinarian will determine:
 - **Regimen** of the antibiotic (dose, duration) within label options (there may be only one or a range)
 - **Number** of cattle to which the VFD drug may be fed
 - **Amount** of the VFD drug which may be purchased
 - **The duration** of use.
 - The length of time the VFD drug is allowed to be fed to the animals.
 - **The Expiration** date.
 - Specifies the last day the VFD feed can be fed

What does it mean for producers?

Record Keeping

- You will provide name, address, phone number, location of cattle, approximate weight and number of cattle that will be covered under VFD.
- Keep a copy of signed VFD from your vet for **at least 2 years**

VFD Required?

- Milk replacer with neomycin and oxytetracycline (NeoTerra)
 - Yes
- Chlortetracycline in the feed for footrot
 - Not allowed, this is illegal extralabel use
- Mineral or feed with chlortetracycline for anaplasmosis prevention
 - Yes
- Tylosin for reduction in liver abscesses
 - Yes

VFD Required?

- Monensin (Rumensin®) as the only antibiotic in the ration.
 - No, this is not a medically important antibiotic
- Monensin fed concurrently with Tylosin
 - In this case, the VFD for tylosin would need to authorize the concurrent feeding of monensin
- Chlortetracycline or oxytetracycline in the feed for treatment of bovine respiratory disease
 - Yes

Take Away Messages

1. **Veterinary Client Patient Relationship**
2. **Abide by the LABEL!**
 - A. Your veterinarian can only authorize uses which conform to the product label for in-feed antibiotics
 - This is currently the law for in-feed use of all drugs