

Youth Guide - Veterinary Feed Directive

JANUARY 1, 2017 - The Veterinary Feed Directive (VFD) will take effect. How you use certain feed and water-based antibiotics will change.

- **What?** A veterinary feed directive (VFD) is a written statement given to an animal owner by a veterinarian that is similar to a prescription. The written statement allows the owner of the animal to purchase and use animal feed containing a VFD drug or combination drug to treat an animal according to the veterinarian's orders.
- **Why?** Medically important antibiotics will no longer be available to use for growth promotion. The use of these products for prevention, treatment or control of a specific disease will require direct veterinary supervision. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has stated this directive is necessary to protect public health, limit the potential of antimicrobial resistance and to promote the cautious use of these animal health products only when appropriate.
- **How?** Read the label! All feeds containing VFD drugs must have the following statement: "Caution: Federal law restricts medicated feed containing this veterinary feed directive (VFD) drug to use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian."
 - Youth must obtain a VFD order from their veterinarian, then send or take the VFD order to a feed manufacturer or supplier to get the VFD feed. If you manufacture your own feed you must have a VFD to get the medicated feed.
 - VFD feed must be fed according to the information on the label and on the VFD. You must also follow the expiration date on the VFD. VFD feed cannot be fed to animals after the VFD has expired.

Antibiotic Examples:

- Penicillins
- Glycopeptides
- Cephalosporins
- Tetracyclines
- Macrolides
- Sulfas
- Fluroquinolones

Common Names:

- Chlorotetracycline (CTC)
- Aureomycin
- Tylan
- Lincomycin

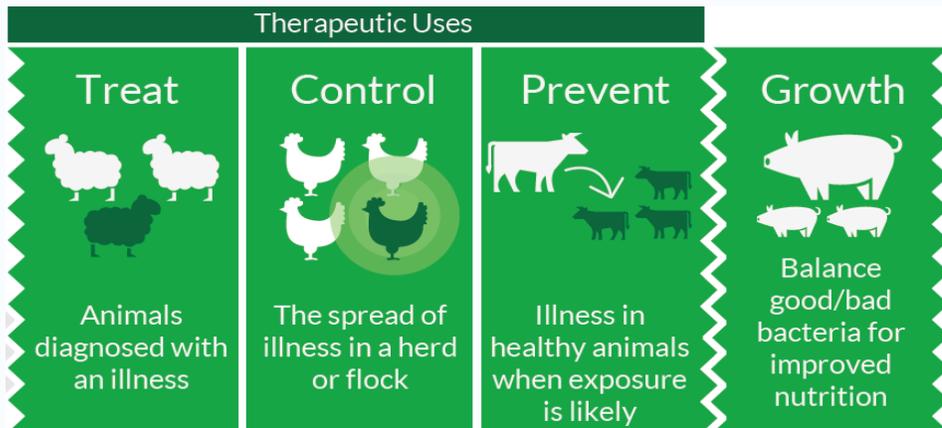
Components of a VFD

- Veterinarian's contact information
- Producer's contact information
- Location of animals prescribed the VFD
- Date VFD was written
- Expiration date of VFD
- Name of drug
- Species of animals being fed the VFD
- Number of animals to be fed VFD
- Why the drug was prescribed
- Withdrawal time
- Refills
- VFD statement
- Veterinarian's signature

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Did You Know?

Antibiotics are just one way producers use to treat, control and prevent animal illnesses therapeutically. Changes in the new VFD ruling prohibits antibiotic use solely for growth promotion.



Plan Ahead.

- Establish A Working Relationship With Your Veterinarian
- Only feed animal feed containing a VFD drug to animals that were prescribed the VFD.
- Do not feed animals a VFD after the expiration date on the VFD.
- Provide a copy of the VFD feed order to the place where you purchase your feed.
- Record all VFD's on your feed and medication records
- Keep a copy of the VFD order for a minimum of two years
- Provide VFD orders for inspection and copying by the FDA upon request.

Checklist for Producers

Do you have a valid Vet-Client-Patient-Relationship (VCPR) with your Vet?

YES **NO**

Have you reviewed all animal health products, vaccinations, and medications currently being used for your animals?

Do you know which medications you use can still be purchased over-the-counter or will now need a VFD?

Do you have a plan in place to store copies of written VFD records for at least 2 years?

For More Information: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects/livestock>

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