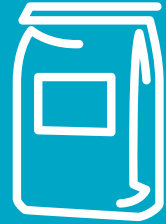


VFD IMPACT ON POULTRY FEED MILLS



Poultry producers have long used medicated feed additives in a responsible, judicious fashion. To help ensure this moving forward, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has introduced new guidelines for antimicrobial usage.

- **Guidance #152** helps to define medically important antimicrobials.¹
- **Guidance #209** defines judicious uses of medically important antimicrobials in food production animals. Guidance #209 also states that veterinary involvement in the decision-making process of medically important antibiotics is essential to helping ensure responsible use.²
- **Guidance #213** provides the procedures for voluntarily phasing out growth-promotion indications and establishing therapeutic treatment indications for the use of medically important antimicrobial drugs in food producing animals.³

As part of Guidance #213, a Veterinary Feed Directive (VFD) must be obtained from a licensed veterinarian before using any feeds containing antibiotics that are medically important to human health. So if your mill has not dealt with a VFD in the past, it's imperative that all Standard Operating Procedures are modified to include this critical documentation.

WHAT'S A VFD, AND WHAT'S THE IMPACT ON POULTRY FEED MILLS?

A VFD is a written statement that allows producers to obtain and use certain drugs in poultry feed in accordance with the FDA-approved directions for use. Medications requiring a VFD must be used under veterinary supervision and in compliance with the drug's FDA-approved label before they're mixed into rations.

A written prescription from a veterinarian is required before these products may be delivered and incorporated into your feeds. Documentation must remain on hand for two years.

Not all products will require a VFD. Synthetic anticoccidials, ionophores and antibiotics not considered medically important to humans may be used without a VFD, although veterinary involvement is still encouraged for all antibiotic decisions.

According to the American Feed Industry Association (AFIA), there are numerous drug compounds with more than 120 different uses that will be affected by this guidance across animal agriculture.⁴

IMPACT ON POULTRY MEDICATIONS

BROILER AND TURKEY MEDICINES TO REQUIRE A VFD	ZOETIS MFAs TO REQUIRE A VFD	ZOETIS MFAs TO NOT REQUIRE A VFD*
Chlortetracycline	Aureomycin® (<i>chlortetracycline</i>)	Avatec® (<i>lasolocid</i>)
Halofuginone	ChlorMax® (<i>chlortetracycline</i>)	Bio-Cox® (<i>salinomycin sodium</i>)
Lincomycin	Lincomix® (<i>lincomycin</i>)	BMD® (<i>bacitracin methylene disalicylate</i>)
Neomycin/oxytetracycline	RofenAid® (<i>sulfadimethoxine and ormetoprim</i>)	Deccox® (<i>decoquinat</i>)
Oxytetracycline		Histostat® (<i>nitarsone</i>)
Penicillin		Robenz® (<i>robenidine hydrochloride</i>)
Sulfadimethoxine + Ormetoprim		Zoamix® (<i>zoalene</i>)
Virginiamycin		

*Please note that if a nonmedically important MFA is used in combination with a medically important MFA, a VFD will be required for the combination.

WHAT ELSE FEED MILLS SHOULD BE THINKING ABOUT

As the guidance becomes finalized, take the following steps within your operation:⁵

- Talk with your team's veterinarian or Zoetis representative on how this will impact your daily operations and review your current list of medicines to see what might be affected.
- Assign a VFD administrator within your mill who can become a go-to resource.
- Add a step in your current recordkeeping procedures for recording and filing VFD documentation.
- Stay up to date with any new information from the FDA.



Zoetis is here to help ensure you're prepared as GFI 213 becomes finalized. For more details, **CONTACT YOUR ZOETIS REPRESENTATIVE.**

¹ FDA Guidance for Industry #152. Evaluating the Safety of Antimicrobial New Animal Drugs with Regard to Their Microbiological Effects on Bacteria of Human Health Concern. Food and Drug Administration, Center for Veterinary Medicine, October 23, 2003.

² FDA Guidance for Industry #209. The Judicious Use of Medically Important Antimicrobial Drugs in Food-Producing Animals. Food and Drug Administration, Center for Veterinary Medicine, April 13, 2012.

³ FDA Guidance for Industry #213. New Animal Drugs and New Animal Drug Combination Products Administered in or on Medicated Feed or Drinking Water of Food Producing Animals: Recommendations for Drug Sponsors for Voluntarily Aligning Product Use Conditions with GFI #209. Food and Drug Administration, Center for Veterinary Medicine, December 2013.

⁴ Roembke J. Proposed VFD rule: Business as usual for well-managed producers. *Feed Management*. January/February 2014. Available at: http://www.wattagnet.com/Proposed_VFD_rule___Business_as_usual_for_well-managed_producers.html. Accessed September 3, 2014.

⁵ Roembke J. What feed mills need to know about updates to the Veterinary Feed Directive. *Feed Management*. 2013;7:6-10.

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