



Good Production Practices: Where Did That Medication Come From?

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Purpose: Teach youth to understand the differences in over-the-counter, prescription, extra-label, and illegal use of animal pharmaceuticals.*

Materials Needed

- Scenarios.
- Large sheets of paper, one per group (easel Post-it pads or a large roll of craft paper works well).
- Spray can of craft adhesive (repositionable adhesive works best because it allows youth to move the scenarios; some kinds of adhesives are permanent).

Steps

1. Divide a large sheet of paper into four columns and label the columns with the following four headings: "Over-the-Counter," "Prescription," "Extra-Label," and "Illegal Use." Repeat this on additional sheets of paper until you have one for each small group of youth.
2. Print the six scenarios so that you have a complete set per group. These need to be small enough to fit in the columns on the large sheets of paper.
3. Immediately before the activity, spray the adhesive in each column so the scenarios can stick under the appropriate category. Spray adhesive outside in a ventilated area.
4. Hang the large sheets of paper around the room so that each group has its own station for the activity.
5. Have the youth split into pairs or small groups and go to where one of the sheets of paper is hanging.
6. Give a set of the scenario cards to each group and instruct them to place each card in the appropriate column.
7. When the time has expired (approximately three minutes can be given; use your discretion), you can display the answer key and discuss why each scenario was put in the category in which it was assigned.

**This activity has been developed to supplement the information that can be found in the National Pork Board Good Production Practice No. 2: Use a veterinarian/client/patient relationship (VCPR) as the basis for medication decision-making.*

Remembering What Is Important

The categories of medication are very different, and it is important that they are treated as such.

- Over-the-counter medications can be bought at a farm supply store and should be used according to the label.
- Prescription medications can only be given to you by a veterinarian and must be used under the veterinarian's directive.
- Extra-label use is a usage that is different from what is stated on the label. It is only legal under your veterinarian's directive.
- Illegal use of medications is any usage of a medication that does not follow the label or was not prescribed by a veterinarian if it does not follow the label (extra-label use). This also refers to use of a feed medication in any way that is not indicated on the label (extra-label use of medicated feed is illegal; no veterinarian directives are allowed for medicated feed).
- Ask the youth questions about the different usage categories and why it is important to be able to distinguish between them. Questions might include the following:
 - Why is it so important to be able to distinguish the differences among over-the-counter, prescription, and extra-label use?
 - Why are some medicines only available through a veterinarian?
 - Is it legal to use medicated feed products extra-label? Is it legal to use medicated feeds differently than what is on the label if you have been directed how to do so by a veterinarian?

Scenarios

Scenario 1

The veterinarian tells you to use 10 cc/100 lbs of LA-200.

Scenario 2

You notice that your heifer is limping and her foot is swollen. Her symptoms lead you to believe she has foot rot. You go to the local farm supply store, purchase an antibiotic, and use it exactly as it tells you on the label.

Scenario 3

You do not know how to give an animal an IV, so you injected your 800-pound steer with a subcutaneous injection of 8 cc of banamine.

Scenario 4

According to your FAMACHA card, it is time to deworm your herd. You go to your local co-op and notice that none of the products are labeled for goat usage. You call your veterinarian, and she gives you directions to use Ivomec.

Scenario 5

Your steer has similar symptoms to your heifer that your veterinarian treated last week, including droopy ears, labored breathing, and a snotty nose. You call your veterinarian, and she tells you to pick up a dose of Nuflo from her office.

Scenario 6

You decide to feed your lamb Ractopamine to increase growth prior to the spring show. Ractopamine is only FDA approved for use in cattle.

Answer Key

Scenario 1: Extra-Label

Scenario 2: Over-the-Counter

Scenario 3: Illegal Use

Scenario 4: Extra-Label

Scenario 5: Prescription

Scenario 6: Illegal Use

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