Use a Valid Veterinarian/Client/Patient Relationship as the Basis for Medication Decision-making

Good Production Practice #1

Assuring Quality Care for Animals

Food Animal Quality Assurance

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Veterinarian/Client/Patient Relationship (VCPR)

- Important to establish
  - Manage the health of project animal(s)
  - Prevention of drug residues
- Required for prescription drugs, extra-label drug use and Veterinary Feed Directives (VFD)
VCPR

What is needed for this relationship?

- Required that the veterinarian:
  - has seen and has knowledge of the animal
  - has discussed a healthy plan or any treatments with the owner
Basic Classes of Drugs

1. Over the Counter Drugs (OTC)
   - Can be purchased without a prescription
   - Should consult veterinarian before use
   - MUST follow label instructions EXACTLY.
Basic Classes of Drugs

2. Prescription Drugs (Rx)

- Drugs that require a veterinarian’s written permission for use (prescription).
- Label of a Rx drug will state
  - “CAUTION”
  - “Federal law restricts use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian.”
Types of Drug Use

1. **Label Use**
   - Using the drug EXACTLY as stated on the label.

2. **Off Label**
   - Use of a drug in a manner other than what is stated on the label AND without guidance from a veterinarian under the extra-label policy.
   - **ILLEGAL**
Types of Drug Use

3. Extra-Label
- Using an animal drug in a manner not in accordance with the approved drug labeling, but with the guidance of a veterinarian.
Extra-Label

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
- NOTE: must obtain withdrawal time from vet!
Veterinary Feed Directive

- Category for new antimicrobial drugs used in the feed to treat disease
  - Must have a VFD to feed the product
  - Extra-label use NOT permitted