

PROTECT PEOPLE AND ANIMALS, COMBAT ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE

Actions for Livestock and Poultry Producers

Livestock (e.g., cattle, swine, sheep, goat) and poultry producers are key in helping to reduce the development and spread of antibiotic resistance. Adopt these practices to continue protecting the health of animals and people who work on farms, the community, and our food supply.



Work Closely with Your Veterinarian

Communicate often with your veterinarian, who will decide when antibiotics are needed to treat, control, and prevent disease in animals.

Ask for advice related to preventing antibiotic-resistant infections specific to your farm size, animal species, and environment.



Keep Animals Healthy

Follow good husbandry practices and implement biosecurity practices—techniques to prevent disease—on the farm, during transport, and in production facilities.

Adhere to animal welfare standards including a safe drinking water supply, good nutrition, clean airflow, and avoid overcrowding.

Give veterinarian-recommended vaccinations to prevent diseases and separate sick animals right away to prevent the spread of disease.

Adopt best practices in waste management and follow manufacturer recommendations to clean equipment.



Use Antibiotics Exactly as Prescribed

Follow your veterinarian's instructions on the dose (amount), duration (period of time), and route of administration (how to give antibiotics).

Keep a record of all antibiotic use, including dates and times, and follow up with your veterinarian about how the treatment is working.

Safely dispose of unused or expired antibiotics. Find local drug disposal programs. Never pour or flush unused drugs down drains or toilets.



Protect Yourself and Your Workers

Make sure farms have one toilet and handwashing station with soap and running water for every 20 workers, within a 5-minute walk of their work area.

Confirm workers have appropriate vaccinations and receive safety and hygiene training specific to the work they perform.

When needed, wear and clean personal protective equipment appropriately (e.g., gloves, boots, and face and breathing masks).



**U.S. Department of
Health and Human Services**
Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention