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Veterinary Feed Directive:
What You Need to Know

WHAT IS A VFD?

On June 5, 2015, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) published in the Federal Register its final rule amending the Veterinary Feed Directive (VFD) regulation. The VFD regulation was revised to facilitate its expanded use under FDA's antimicrobial resistance policies. These policies apply to animal agriculture drugs, which are also important in human medicine. A VFD is a written statement issued by a licensed veterinarian that allows the use of a particular drug or combination of drugs in or on an animal feed. The FDA intends to have related policies in place by late 2016 with the VFD effective no later than January 1, 2017.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR YOU?

There are 362 drugs that are subject to a VFD. If an item that you currently use is on the list, you will no longer be able to add it to your feed or water without veterinary oversight and a written VFD from a veterinarian. As a result, this may increase the lead time required to treat a flock or herd, so it will be imperative for you and/or your customers to monitor animal health and build a strong relationship with a veterinarian.

WHAT DO FEED MANUFACTURERS NEED TO DO?

Feed mills, on-farm mixers, and distributors must send a letter to the FDA at any time stating their intent to distribute a VFD drug. However, this letter must be received by the FDA before the purchase of any VFD drugs from Nutrify occurs. After submitting your letter, the form titled "Acknowledgement of Distribution Limitations for VFD Feeds" must be completed and returned to Nutrify. This form acknowledges that you, as a purchaser of feed/ingredients, are aware of the established VFD rules and requirements. Please note that VFDs will also include expiration dates. Any feed made with a VFD that remains in a bin after the expiration date will require a new VFD to be issued. Additionally, producers, veterinarians, and feed manufacturers must also keep records of the VFD on file for two years. The veterinarian must keep the original copy, and the feed mill and customer/producer must each keep copies, as well. Hard copy and electronic versions are permitted.

Common VFD Drugs

Established drug name	Examples of proprietary drug name(s) $
avilamycin	Kavault
chlortetracycline (CTC)	Aureomycin, CLTC, CTC, Chloratet, Chlorachel, ChlorMax, Chlortetracycline, Deracin, Inchlor, Pennchlor, Pfichlor
chlortetracycline/sulfamethazine*	Aureo S, Aureomix S, Pennchlor S
chlortetracycline/sulfamethazine/ penicillin*	Aureomix 500, Chlorachel/Pficlor SP, Pennchlor SP, ChlorMax SP
florfenicol	Aquaflor, Nuflor
hygromycin B	Hygromix
lincomycin	Lincomix
oxytetracycline (OTC)	Aureomycin, TM, OXTC, Oxytetracycline, Pennox, Terramycin
oxytetracycline/neomycin*	Neo Oxy, Neo Terramycin
penicillin+	Penicillin, Penicillin G Procaine
sulfadimethoxine/ormetoprim*	Rofenaid, Romet
tilmicosin	Pulmotil, Tilmovet
tylosin	Tylan, Tylosin, Tylovet
tylosin/sulfamethazine*	Tylan Sulfa G, Tylan Plus Sulfa G, Tylosin Plus Sulfamethazine
virginiamycin	Stafac, Virginiamycin, V Max

Note: apramycin, erythromycin, neomycin (alone), oleandomycin+, sulfamerazine, and sulfaquinoxaline are also approved for use in feed and are expected to transition to VFD status, but are not marketed at this time. If they return to the market after January 1, 2017, they will require a VFD.
$Type A medicated articles used to manufacture medicated feed, all products may not be marketed at this time
*Fixed ratio, combination drug
+Currently only approved for production uses

This information is up to date as of January 19, 2016. As the industry transitions, CVM anticipates additional changes during the coming months to this information. Please check the link below for the most recent updates:
http://www.fda.gov/AnimalVeterinary/DevelopmentApprovalProcess/ucm071807.htm