

**World Pork Expo
June 9 and 10, 2010**



Science and Technology Update

**Chelsie D. Redalen
Director, Government Relations
National Pork Producers Council**

Today's Presentation

- We Care and PQA Plus
- Antibiotics baseline
- Antibiotics legislation
- Antibiotics mischief
- Food Safety Legislation
- Food Safety Regulation
- What you can do
- Questions?

CBS EVENING NEWS WITH KATIE COURIC

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February 9, 2010

Animal Antibiotic Overuse Hurting Humans?

Katie Couric Investigates Feeding Healthy Farm Animals Antibiotics. Is it Creating New Drug-Resistant Bacteria?

[Read Story](#)

Video: [Animal Antibiotics a Threat?](#)

EXCLUSIVE WEBSHOW

@katiecouric



Katie Couric speaks with New Orleans Saints quarterback Drew Brees.

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CBS REPORTS **USA TODAY**

WHERE AMERICA STANDS

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A photograph of a pig in a metal cage, looking out through the bars. The pig is pink and appears to be in a confined space.

Who's hogging our antibiotics?

**Up to 70% of U.S. antibiotics go to
farm animals that aren't sick.**

SaveAntibiotics.org

THE PEW CAMPAIGN ON HUMAN HEALTH AND INDUSTRIAL FARMING



THE
PEW
CHARITABLE TRUSTS

Ethical Principles for U.S. Pork Producers

U.S. pork producers recognize our obligation to build and maintain the trust of customers and the public in our products and our practices. To promote confidence in what we do and how we do it, we affirm the following ethical principles.

- Food Safety

We affirm our obligation to produce safe food.

- Animal Well-Being

We affirm our obligation to protect and promote animal well-being.

- Environment

We affirm our obligation to safeguard natural resources in all of our practices.

- Public Health

We affirm our obligation to ensure our practices protect public health.

- Employee Care

We affirm our obligation to provide a work environment that is safe and consistent with our other ethical standards.

- The Communities in Which We Operate

We affirm our obligation to contribute to a better quality of life in our communities.



PQA Plus™

- Rolled out June '07
- Elements of PQA Plus™
 - Individual producer certification through education
 - On-farm site assessment
 - Third-party verification to continuously analyze the success of the program
- Voluntary but it's required as a condition of sale by most packers

PQA Plus™

Good Production Practices

- Establish and Implement an Efficient and Effective Herd Health Management Plan
- Use an Appropriate Veterinarian/Client/Patient Relationship (VCPR) as the Basis for Medication Decision-making
- Use Antibiotics Responsibly
- Identify and Track All Treated Animals
- Maintain Medication and Treatment Records
- Properly Store, Label and Account for All Drug Products and Medicated Feeds
- Educate All Animal Caretakers on Proper Administration Techniques, Needle-Use Procedures, Observance of Withdrawal Times and Methods to Avoid Marketing Adulterated Products for Human Food
- Follow Appropriate On-Farm Feed and Commercial Feed Processor Procedures
- Develop, Implement and Document an Animal Caretaker Training Program
- Provide Proper Swine Care to Improve Swine Well-Being

There Are Four FDA-Approved Uses For Antibiotics.

- Growth Promotion - Feed Efficiency
- Prevention
- Control
- Treatment

Here's How Producers Can Get Antibiotics.

- **Over-The-Counter (OTC)**
 - Producers, only as approved on label or added to feed by a feed mill as directed on the FDA approved label.
- **Veterinary Feed Directive (VFD)**
 - Feed mill adds a specific antibiotic at specific dose. Most states require a VCPR
- **Prescription**

The Theory

- Antimicrobial resistance is caused by widespread use of antimicrobials in food production systems, i.e., the more we expose the organisms to antimicrobials the more we give them the opportunity to develop resistance.
- Although that may be true in a very simplified, general sense, there is no scientific evidence of ***how, if*** or ***to what extent*** such exposure affects human health.

The Facts

- No case of human infection with a resistant bacteria has been proven to be caused by use of antimicrobials in food animals.
- There is little to no evidence that restricting or eliminating the use of antimicrobials in food-producing animals would improve human health or reduce the risk of antimicrobial resistance to humans.

The Antibiotic Debate Continues.

- Benefits
 - Animal welfare → prevent and treat disease
 - Food safety → healthy animals produce safer food
 - Efficiency → economic and environmental
- Disadvantages
 - Antimicrobial resistant bacteria

Two Approaches On Antibiotics

- Discontinue Use
 - Although we may not know the degree of risk, why should we take any chances? Let's eliminate or reduce the use of antibiotics in animals on the possibility that this is jeopardizing human health.
- Continue Use
 - Let's not take any action that is not based on a scientific risk assessment. They would say that the benefits to animal health, welfare, and food safety outweigh the risks to human health based on risk assessments done thus far.

Antibiotics:

S. 619/H.R. 1549: What Does It Really Mean?

- Manufacturers have to prove **again** that medicines are safe.
 - Have 2 years to complete risk assessment and have FDA sign off
- “Critical antimicrobial animal drug” definition
 - All inclusive list of medicines
 - On the chopping block: 7 classes
- Definition of nontherapeutic
 - Leaves us with treatment use of water and feed antibiotics
 - Lose prevention and control

Antibiotics:

S. 619/H.R. 1549: Policy or Politics?

- S. 619
 - 17 Cosponsors
 - 2 Republican Cosponsors
- H.R. 1549
 - 110 Cosponsors
 - ZERO Republican Cosponsors

Antibiotics: Here's The Mischief...

- Antibiotic overuse raised during subcommittee and committee mark-up of FDA food safety bill in House
- Rep. Slaughter said during the food safety floor debate that she would like to address in the fall
- Rep. Slaughter's GAO request about on-farm antibiotic use
- Rep. Slaughter and Rep. Schakowsky letter to the White House
- Danish government letter to the House Ag Committee
- Rep. Slaughter attempts to coordinate a CODEL to Denmark
- Rep. Slaughter's floor speech linking antibiotics to E. coli outbreak in the NY Times article

Antibiotics: Here's The Mischief...

- PAMTA offered as an amendment during committee mark-up of FDA food safety bill in Senate
- Concerted effort for PAMTA co-sponsors in December
- AP article
- Rep. Slaughter calls for restrictions on antibiotics in light of Russia's ban
- Pew Commission and UCS implementing a lobbying campaign
- CBS story
- April 28 hearing at the Committee on Energy and Commerce on Antibiotic Resistance
- June 9 hearing at the Committee on Energy and Commerce on injudicious use of antibiotics in human medicine

Antibiotics:

Here's The Mischief: Educational Briefings

- "Antibiotic Resistance and the Dry Antibiotic Pipeline: Saving Patients' Lives and Protecting Public Health"
- "Reducing Antibiotic Resistance: Lessons Learned From Denmark"
- "Germs We Cannot Always Kill: Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA)"
- "The Alarming Increase in Human Antibiotic-Resistant Infections and the Science Linking This Phenomenon to On-Farm Nontherapeutic Antibiotic Use"
- "Alternatives to Routine Antibiotic Use in Food Animals"
- "The Economic and Public Health Effects of Non-therapeutic Antibiotics in Food Animal Production, Including the Connection to MRSA"
- "Industrial Animal Farms and Worker Health and Safety"

Takeaways:

- The antibiotics have been approved by FDA.
- The science supports using antibiotics responsibly and maintaining animal health.
- Opponents do not have to base their comments on fact.
- Perception is reality.

FDA Food Safety: H.R. 2749

- Exemptions achieved for:
 - USDA-regulated products
 - USDA-regulated facilities
 - Farms raising animals from which meat and eggs are regulated by Meat, Poultry and Egg Acts
- Concerns remain:
 - Greatly increases FDA's food safety authority
 - Civil penalties
 - Fees for registration, re-inspection, recalls, export certification
 - Mandatory recall

**NPPC delivered a carve-out
for pork producers!**

FDA Food Safety: S. 510

- Bi-Partisan Bill, Targets High-Risk Foods
- Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) passed the bill
- Does not cover the livestock and poultry industries but NPPC still has concerns
- Amendments: Senate Floor debate?
 - No traceability Amendment (Brown)
 - No small farms exemption (Tester)
 - No BPA amendment (Feinstein)
 - No MCOOL on processed products (Brown)
 - No PAMTA (Reed, Feinstein, et. al)

USDA's Mande calls for earlier pathogen intervention, better testing

By Rita Jane Gabbett on 2/3/2010

USDA Deputy Under Secretary for Food Safety Jerold Mande outlined four areas of research that would help improve food safety, in prepared remarks for the dedication ceremony of the Emerging Pathogens Institute at the University of Florida.

First, he suggested research into new and better tools to help farmers and ranchers fight foodborne pathogens. "To take the next big step forward on food safety we need to do more to have fewer pathogens on food animals when they arrive at the slaughterhouse gate," said Mande.

Second, he called for more effective testing. "We need better sampling methods based solidly in science. We need better tests that more rapidly detect a broader range of harmful pathogens, including whether pathogens are resistant to antimicrobials," he said. "We also need stronger assurance that laboratories used by companies have the expertise and experience to do effective food safety testing."

Third, Mande said FSIS inspectors need more sensitive and effective ways to detect foodborne hazards. "We need to do a better job equipping our inspectors with the means to not let harmful pathogens slip by as we stand watch."

Finally, he called for research to discover the unidentified pathogens responsible for the majority of foodborne illness. Mande said according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, as many as 80 percent of illnesses, 70 percent of hospitalizations and 65 percent of deaths could be caused by agents other than the 30 pathogens CDC currently tracks.

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FSIS And Pork

- *Salmonella*
 - Pork baseline
- FSIS has indicated a desire to have an updated performance standard that includes at least 2 points in the process
 - Pre- and post- interventions
- Expect Compliance Guidelines for meeting performance standards to be issued

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We Have To Tell Our Story.

Chelsie D. Redalen
Director, Government Relations
Washington, D.C.
redalenc@nppc.org
(202) 347-3600

