

F. No. X-11026/64/2014-BD
Directorate of General of Health Services
Central Drugs Standard Control Organization
FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi
(O/o DCG (I))

Dated: 06/06/2014

To,

1. All State/UT Drugs Controllers

Sub: Use of antibiotics for treatment of food producing animals and in animal feed -regarding.

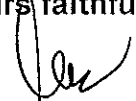
Sir,

The Drugs and Cosmetics Rules were amended by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare vide Gazette notification G.S.R. 28(E) dated 17th January 2012, to make a provision that the container of a medicine for treatment of food producing animals shall be labelled with the withdrawal period of the drug for the species on which it is intended to be used. The Ministry of Agriculture, is a nodal Ministry for matters relating to livestock production, preservation, protection and improvement of stocks, dairy development etc. The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries under that Ministry has issued a circular to all Directors/ Commissioners (Animal Husbandry) of all State and UTs vide their letter no. 102-74/2014-Trade dated 3rd June, 2014 on use of antibiotics for treatment of food producing animals and in animal feeding. A copy of the letter is enclosed.

It has been stated in the letter that the State Governments and Union Territories are requested to advise the State Veterinarians, feed manufacturers and also the persons involved in treatment of animal for judicious use of antibiotics and hormones for the treatment of ailing food producing animals. An awareness programme at the consumer and farmers level may also be arranged. **At the same time use of antibiotics and hormones in animal feed should also be stopped.**

In view of the above you are requested to take up the matter with the Directors/ Commissioners (Animal Husbandry) in your State/ Union Territory for the compliance of the directions issued by the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries. Arrangements may also be made to give publicity to the contents of the directions issued so as to ensure compliance by the manufacturers involved in the production of such food stuffs from animals.

Yours faithfully,



(Dr. G. N. Singh)
Drugs Controller General (India)

1. Copy forwarded for information to
 - I. AS & DG, (CGHS), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi
 - II. JS (R), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi

2. Copy forwarded for information and necessary follow up to
The Zonal /Subzonal offices of CDSCO.

No. 102-74/2014-Trade
Government of India
Ministry of Agriculture
Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries

Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi,
Dated, 3rd June, 2014

To,
All Directors/Commissioners (Animal Husbandry)
Of all States and UTs.

Subject: Use of antibiotics for treatment of food-producing animals and in animal feeding.

Sir,

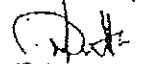
The primary use of antibiotics for animal treatment is as a schedule drugs for treatment of infectious and contagious diseases in animal. It is a well known fact that following administration of any drugs including antibiotics, there should be a withdrawal period to be given for food producing animals. In this regard, the Drug Controller General of India have issued a notification under the Drugs and Cosmetic Act, 1940 wherein the drug manufacturers has been directed that the container of a medicine for treatment of food producing animals shall be labelled with a specific withdrawal period of the drug for the species on which it is intended to be used. If the specific withdrawal period has not been validated, the withdrawal period shall not be less than seven days for eggs or milk, twenty eight days for meat from poultry and mammals including fat and offal, five hundred degree days for fish meat. The withdrawal period is the period of interval between the last administration of a veterinary medicine to animals under the normal conditions of use and production of food stuff from such animals so as to ensure that food stuffs do not contain residues in quantities in excess of the maximum permissible residue limits laid down.

2. Apart from above use, antibiotics are also used as feed premix for regular feeding in poultry and animals used for meat, milk and egg production. This kind of regular feeding of antibiotics has serious consequences on human being since residues of antibiotics may accumulate in meat, milk and eggs. Consumption of antibiotic contaminated meat, milk and eggs may develop antibiotic resistance in both human being and animals. This type of use of antibiotics should be discouraged and in this regard, the farmers/ industries and feed manufacturers should be advised/educated on not to use antibiotics for animal feeding.

3. Further, the use of hormones as growth promoters used in food producing animals should also be stopped since it has also adverse effect on human and animal life.

4. All the State Governments and Union Territories are requested to advice all the State Veterinarians, feed manufacturers and also the persons involved in treatment of animal for judicious use of antibiotics and hormones for the treatment of ailing food producing animals. An awareness programme at the consumer and farmers level may also be arranged. At the same time use of antibiotics and hormones in animal feed should also be stopped.

Yours sincerely,


(S.K. Dutta)

Asstt. Commissioner

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Copy to:

1. Drug Controller General of India, Directorate General of Health Services, FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi for further course of action in this regard.
2. Food Safety and Standard Authority of India, FDA Bhawan, Kotla Road, New Delhi to evolve system of estimating drug residue in domestic products.