Prudent drug use from the practitioner’s viewpoint

Phil A. Lowe, DVM
Private practitioner, Beverly, OH 45715

Abstract

With increased scrutiny from government agencies, animal rights groups and consumers, we need to be more vigilant with antibiotic usage on farm. Now more than ever we need to assure that a valid veterinarian-client-patient relationship (VCPR), written protocols and treatment records are in place for drug use documentation. As the veterinarian of record (VOR) it is our responsibility to oversee drug usage on our client’s operations and monitor treatment response and protocol drift.

Key words: VCPR, drug usage, protocols

Résumé

Avec une surveillance accrue des organismes gouvernementaux, les groupes de défense des droits des animaux et des consommateurs, nous avons besoin d’être plus vigilant à l’utilisation des antibiotiques à la ferme. Maintenant plus que jamais nous avons besoin d’assurer qu’une relation vétérinaire-client-patient (RVCP), les protocoles écrits et enregistrements de traitement sont en place pour la lutte contre l’utilisation de la documentation. Comme le vétérinaire officiel (VOR) c’est notre responsabilité de superviser l’usage des drogues sur nos opérations du client et de surveiller la réponse au traitement et au protocole de la dérive.

Introduction

Today’s dairy producers and veterinarians need to take an increased active role in drug usage and documentation on their operations. Written VCPR’s, written treatment protocols and treatment records need to be common place in all operations. As the VOR, it is your responsibility to make sure all areas of prudent drug use are followed and documented. Everything from protocols to drug storage to employee training and oversight need to be reviewed and documented.

Implementation

The first step in the process needs to be a signed VCPR in place. There are several good sites for templates to use to create this. I have decided to make my own simple form that explains the principles of what I expect out of the VCPR from my clients. My approach is a simple statement that says the client has agreed to the principles of what I expect out of the VCPR from my clients. I also routinely inventory the medicine cabinet to assure that every drug on farm is listed on one of our protocols and that supplies are reasonable for disease incident on our farm and herd size.

It is important to record all on farm treatments that we do while on farm as well. We need to show our clients that if this is truly important than we need to take the effort to record what we do on farm in the treatment log.

Treatment logs don’t need to be anything extravagant, but there is certain information that needs to be included. That is drug name, route of administration, dose, and name of person administering. These can be as simple as a 3-ring binder to complex computer software, as long as it is recorded.

Conclusion

As the VOR, it is our job to oversee drug use on our clients operations, and assure a safe wholesome product for their consumers. There continued use of antimicrobials on farm is contingent on us being diligent in drug oversight.
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Bacterial pneumonia, shipping fever, footrot, pinkeye and *E. coli* scours come on fast and hit hard. Veterinarians (and their beef customers) demand a proven, broad-spectrum antibiotic that delivers:

- Long duration of activity (up to 8 days) at 4.5 mL/100 lbs.
- More convenient dose volume than 200 mg/mL oxytetracycline
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- Economical per dose costs
- 100 mL, 250 mL and 500 mL bottles

300 PRO LA® is available only through veterinarians. Observe label directions and withdrawal times. Not for use in lactating dairy animals. Adverse reactions, including injection site swelling, restlessness, ataxia, trembling, respiratory abnormalities (labored breathing), collapse and possibly death have been reported. See product labeling for full product information.

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300 PRO LA®
(oxytetracycline) injection

ANTIBIOTIC:
Each ml contains 300 mg of oxytetracycline base as amphoteric oxytetracycline. For Use In Beef, Non-lactating Dairy Cattle, Calves, Including Pre-ruminating (Veal) Calves and Swine.

READ ENTIRE LABEL CAREFULLY BEFORE USING THIS PRODUCT.

Caution: Federal law restricts this drug to use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian.

INTRODUCTION:
300 PRO LA (oxytetracycline) Injection is a sterile, ready-to-use solution of the broad-spectrum antibiotic oxytetracycline dihydrate. It is indicated for the treatment of a wide range of diseases caused by susceptible gram-positive and gram-negative bacteria.

300 PRO LA should be stored at room temperature 56-86 °F (13-30 °C). The antibiotic activity of oxytetracycline is not appreciably diminished in the presence of body fluids, serum or exudates.

INGREDIENTS:
300 PRO LA Injection is a sterile, pre-constituted solution of the broad-spectrum antibiotic oxytetracycline dihydrate. Each ml contains 300 mg oxytetracycline as base, 40% (v/v) glyceral formal, 10% (v/v) polyethylene glycol 200, 2.7% (w/v) magnesium oxide, 0.4% (w/v) sodium formaldehyde sulphoxylate (as a preservative) and monoethanolamine (as required to adjust pH).

INDICATIONS:
300 PRO LA is intended for use in treatment for the following conditions: cattle, non-lactating dairy cattle, calves, including pre-ruminating (veal) calves: 300 PRO LA is indicated in the treatment of a wide range of diseases caused by susceptible gram-positive and gram-negative bacteria. The antibiotic activity of oxytetracycline is not appreciably diminished in the presence of body fluids, serum or exudates.

For the control of infectious enteritis (baby pig scours, colibacillosis) caused by Escherichia coli; pneumonia caused by Actinobacillus suis; and leptospirosis caused by Leptospira pomona in swine. 300 PRO LA is indicated as an aid in control of infectious enteritis (baby pig scours, colibacillosis) in suckling pigs caused by Escherichia coli. 300 PRO LA is intended for use in treatment for the following conditions: cattle, non-lactating dairy cattle, calves, including pre-ruminating (veal) calves: 300 PRO LA is indicated in the treatment of a wide range of diseases caused by susceptible gram-positive and gram-negative bacteria. The antibiotic activity of oxytetracycline is not appreciably diminished in the presence of body fluids, serum or exudates.

Studies have shown that the half-life of oxytetracycline in blood following intramuscular treatment with 300 PRO LA at 5 mg per pound of bodyweight is approximately 23 hours in cattle and 18 hours in swine. Studies have shown that 300 PRO LA is administered intramuscularly to cattle or swine at 9 mg per pound of bodyweight. Blood oxytetracycline concentration of greater than 0.2 mcg/ml have been observed for at least 3 to 4 days. Studies have shown that 300 PRO LA is administered intramuscularly to cattle or swine at 13.6 mg per pound of bodyweight. Blood oxytetracycline concentration of greater than 0.2 mcg/ml have been observed for at least 1 to 6 days.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION:
Beef cattle, non-lactating dairy cattle, calves, including pre-ruminating (veal) calves: A single intramuscular or subcutaneous dosage of 13.6 mg per pound of bodyweight, 300 PRO LA is recommended for the control of respiratory disease in cattle at high risk of developing BVD associated with Mannheimia (Pasteurella) haemolytica.

A single intramuscular or subcutaneous dose range of 9 to 13.6 mg oxytetracycline per pound of bodyweight. 300 PRO LA is recommended in the treatment of the following conditions: (1) Bacterial pneumonia caused by Pasteurella spp. (shipping fever) in calves and vealings where re-infection is impracticable due to husbandry conditions, such as cattle on range, or where their repeated restraint is inadvisable (2) Infectious bovine keratoconjunctivitis (pink eye) caused by Moraxella (bovis). For other indications 300 PRO LA is to be administered intramuscularly, subcutaneously or intravenously at a level of 3 to 5 mg of oxytetracycline per pound of bodyweight per day. In treatment of foot-rot and advance cases of other indicated diseases, a dosage level of 5 mg per pound of bodyweight per day is recommended. Treatment should be continued 24 to 48 hours following remission of disease signs, however, not to exceed a total of four (4) consecutive days. If improvement is not noted within 24 to 48 hours of the beginning of treatment, diagnosis and therapy should be re-evaluated. Do not administer intramuscularly in the neck of small calves due to lack of sufficient muscle mass. Use extreme care when administering this product by intravenous injection. Intravenous injection or leakage from an intravenous injection may cause severe swelling at the injection site.

ADVERSE REACTIONS:
Reports of adverse reactions associated with oxytetracycline administration include injection site swelling, redness, ataxia, trembling, swelling of eyes, ears, muzzle, anus and vulva (or scrotum and sheath in males), respiratory abnormalities (aborted breathing), tenesmus at the mouth, collapse and possibly death. Some of these reactions may be attributed either to anaphylaxis (an allergic reaction) or to cardiovascular collapse of unknown cause.

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