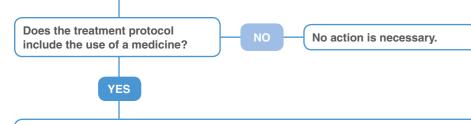


Best practices to prevent medicine residues in milk



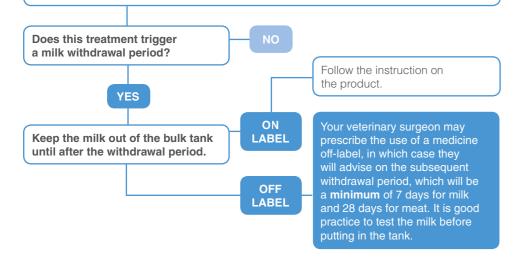
General guidelines

Guidelines for the diagnosis and treatment of conditions affecting cows should be provided by your veterinary surgeon and outlined in your Herd Health Plan. Your veterinary surgeon will prescribe medicine treatments when they are required. Treatments not listed in the plan should not be used. Every effort should be made to reduce the use of antibiotics on farm to reduce the risk of contaminating the food chain.



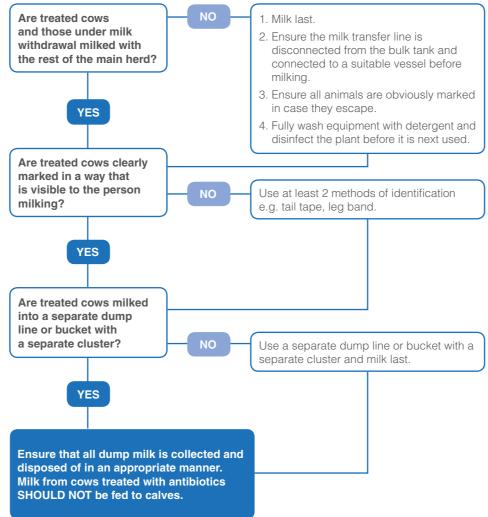
Use the medicine as directed by the prescribing veterinary surgeon.

- 1. Mark the animal before you treat it.
- 2. Record the treatment in the medicines book, including date of all treatments, cow ID, product used, batch number, dose and withdrawal period end date (statutory
- 3. Keep a list of all treated cows somewhere obvious, e.g. a memo board in the parlour.
- 4. Remember, bought-in cows may have been treated without your knowledge.



- Ensure that medicines are obtained from a legal source. Be clear on the medicine
- If an antibiotic residue contamination is suspected, contact your milk purchaser immediately
- Follow data sheet and veterinary advice at all times. Off-label treatment (unlicensed combinations of products, varied dose, an altered route of administration, altered dose frequency or prolonged treatment) will affect withdrawal times. Only a veterinary surgeon can decide whether a medicine can be used in an off label treatment.
- If residues are detected where they were not expected following the use of a product in line with a veterinary surgeon's instructions, this should be reported to the veterinary practice, to the company whose product was used and to the Veterinary Medicines Directorate Suspected Adverse Reaction Surveillance Scheme (http://www.vmd.defra. gov.uk/adversereactionreporting/)

Avoiding accidental contamination during the milking routine



Unless advised by your veterinary surgeon, follow the manufacturer's instructions for the correct number of treatments, treatment interval, dose rate and withdrawal period. If in doubt, always consult your veterinary surgeon, who may recommend an appropriate withdrawal period and/or the use of a suitable antibiotic residue test























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Procedures specific to dry cows

Review your Herd Health Plan detailing the procedure for 'drying off' cows with your veterinary surgeon. Does this cow need antibiotic dry Dry off cow using the protocol outlined in your Herd Health Plan. cow therapy? YES Separate and mark the Are you drying off the correct cows and dry them off after milking. correct cow? YES Does the withdrawal time of the tube Consult your vet. match the likely dry period length? YES Use at least 2 methods of Have you identified all dry cows identification that will last the after treating them whole dry period e.g. tail tape, with antibiotics? leg tape, leg band. YES Record date, product, batch number, cow ID and withdrawal Have you recorded the treatment? period end date YES Read the manufacturer's recommendations and make Check your records to ensure a note of the earliest date milk you know when the milk can go can go back in the tank. Bear in NO back in the tank. Do you know mind the statutory 96-hour postthis date? calving withdrawal. YES Are the dry cows kept separate Keep dry cows separate to from the milking cows, even when reduce accidental milking and the herd is grazing? to provide for their general and nutritional management separately to the milking group. YES Always observe the full withdrawal period of the dry cow product, irrespective of when the cow calves; it is good practice to test milk before putting it in the bulk tank. Remember, bought-in cows and heifers may have been treated without your knowledge.