UNITED STATESANIMAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION - 2004

RESOLUTION: **22**   **APPROVED**

SOURCE: COMMITTEE ON FOOD SAFETY

SUBJECT MATTER: CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR THE FOOD ANIMAL RESIDUE AVOIDANCE DATABANK (FARAD) AND THE NATIONAL ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE MONITORING SYSTEM (NARMS)

DATES: Hershey, Pennsylvania – November 3-9, 2005

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Antimicrobial compounds play an essential role in ensuring the health and well being of livestock. Protecting the health of livestock is also an important contributor to providing consumers an abundant supply of safe, wholesome and affordable food. In order to maintain the human safety, animal safety and continued efficacy of these important products, animal health professionals need prompt access to data relating to prudent use, including complex pharmacokinetic data. This data is an important contributor to prudent-use decisions as well as to aid in preventing violative residues in animal products. Since its inception in 1982, the Food Animal Residue Avoidance Databank (FARAD) has developed and maintained a unique and valuable pharmacokinetic food safety database for veterinarians, livestock producers, state and federal regulatory agencies and extension specialists. In addition, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Center for Veterinary Medicine (CVM) has established the Guidance for Industry #152 framework for evaluating the safety of antibiotics relative to their potential to contribute to the development of antimicrobial resistance. It is important that such resistance patterns, if present, are addressed so as not to jeopardize public health as a potential indirect consequence of antibiotic use in livestock.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), FDA-CVM and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have jointly funded the National Antimicrobial Resistance Monitoring System (NARMS) for many years. The NARMS program is the post-approval monitoring system for new and existing antibiotics and the data are a central element in the decision-making process employed by the FDA Veterinary Medicine Advisory Committee as they implement the Guidance for Industry #152 evaluation process.

RESOLUTION:

The United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) supports the continued funding of the Food Animal Residue Avoidance Databank (FARAD) and full funding of the National Antimicrobial Resistance Monitoring System (NARMS) by the United States Department of Human Health Services (USDHHS), Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Center for Veterinary Medicine (CVM), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Agriculture Research Service (ARS), Cooperative States Research Education and Extension Service (CSREES), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS) to support these important programs.

RESPONSE:

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE (ARS)

ARS appreciates the importance of the National Antimicrobial Resistance Monitoring System (NARMS) as a post-approval monitoring system for new and existing antibiotics whose data are a

central element in the decision-making process employed by the Food and Drug Administration Veterinary Medicine Advisory Committee as they implement the Guidance for Industry #152 evaluation process. Antimicrobial resistance, where present, must not jeopardize public health as a potential indirect consequence of antibiotic use in livestock. ARS will cooperate with other Department of Agriculture and Department of Health and Human Services agencies in supporting NARMS to the extent that our resources allow.