



## UNITED STATES ANIMAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

### Resolution

114th Annual Meeting ~ November 11-17, 2010

Minneapolis, MN

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**RESOLUTION NUMBER: 45                      APPROVED**

**SOURCE:**                                      COMMITTEE ON TRANSMISSIBLE DISEASES OF POULTRY  
AND OTHER AVIAN SPECIES

**SUBJECT MATTER**                              INVOLVEMENT OF VETERINARIANS IN THE  
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FOOD AND DRUG  
ADMINISTRATION SALMONELLA ENTERITIDIS RULE

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The United States Department of Health and Human Services, Food and Drug Administration (FDA) rule (Egg Safety Rule of 2009) addressing *Salmonella enteritidis* (SE) in the shell egg industry went into effect on July 9, 2010. The United States Animal Health Association is concerned that the Rule is being implemented with little involvement from veterinarians, who have received specialized education and training in control of infectious poultry diseases.

SE is a disease of significant concern to the commercial layer industry due to its potential to cause food borne disease in the human population. The shell egg industry continually works toward control of this disease through participation in National Poultry Improvement Plan *Salmonella* Monitoring programs and compliance with the Egg Safety Rule. Involvement of subject matter expert veterinarians in the implementation of this rule would allow for harmonization of existing SE programs in both breeding and production poultry and would ultimately benefit the FDA and the shell egg industry as they work together to reach the common goal of SE reduction in commercial poultry flocks.

### **RESOLUTION**

The United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) requests that the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Food and Drug Administration (FDA) involve the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services, National Poultry Improvement Plan Official State Agencies, state animal health authorities, and commercial poultry industry veterinarians in the implementation of the Egg Safety Rule of 2009. Further, USAHA encourages the FDA to include veterinarians and poultry subject matter experts in overall implementation of the Rule, and in assisting FDA in recognizing acceptable production standards, guidance documents, and compliance audit criteria specific to *Salmonella enteritidis* control for various housing types and systems.