
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 20 APPROVED

SOURCE: COMMITTEE ON SHEEP, GOATS AND CAMELIDS

SUBJECT MATTER: Minor Use Animal Drug Program

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The approval of animal drugs for use in minor species is critical to the appropriate treatment of sheep, goat, and camelid disease and to the maintenance of animal health. The Minor Use Animal Drug (MUAD) Program provides much-needed and valuable service to the sheep, goat, and camelid industries throughout the United States. Strategies to prevent antimicrobial resistance and promote antimicrobial stewardship, an issue of emerging importance, depend on accurate recommendations on therapeutic regimen and withdrawal periods for responsible extra-label use of medications in small ruminants. The continued work of the MUAD Program will be essential to the sustainability and growth of the industry through the availability of the United States Food and Drug Administration-approved medications for use in sheep, goats, and camelids.

The United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) appreciates and supports the efforts of the MUAD Program. The research conducted under this program will be essential to the sustainability of the small ruminant industries and to the maintenance of sheep and goat health. USAHA acknowledges the importance of research conducted under the MUAD Program. It is further noted that the Minor Use/Minor Species Grant Program relates only to projects with protocol concurrence, and that the MUAD Program is critical in providing information essential to food safety and animal care and welfare of sheep, goats, camelids and other minor species.

RESOLUTION:

The United States Animal Health Association urges Congress to authorize a permanent funding mechanism for the Minor Use Animal Drug Program and urges the United States Food and Drug Administration and the United States Department of Agriculture to include permanent funding for the Minor Use Animal Drug Program in their budget requests at a level that meets the needs of minor use and minor species requests.