

SAFE HANDLING and USE GUIDELINES for VETERINARY PRODUCTS

Courtesy of:

Proper injectable drug use principles begin with you — read, understand and follow all label use directions and, in particular, observe all caution statements and human warnings.

SAFETY FIRST

Worker safety

- Keep children and bystanders out of work area
- Properly restrain all animals
- Identify an exit route
- Be aware of uneven or changing walking surfaces
- Handle loaded syringes with care
- Keep needles properly covered until use
- Never carry loaded syringes in your coat or pockets
- Do not work alone
- Clearly establish the team leader and roles and responsibilities
- Evaluate the experience of those around you

Animal safety

- Use adequate facilities (i.e., squeeze chute, head gate)
- Minimize handling stress in accordance with animal behavior
- Adjust your activity with the temperament of each animal

Environmental safety

- Post emergency procedures and contacts
- Remove potential hazards in work area
- Repair or remove broken equipment
- Properly dispose of needles
- Properly dispose of and/or recycle all materials

S SELF
A ANIMAL
F FOOD
E ENVIRONMENT

Beef Quality Assurance Program (BQA) guidelines for injectable animal-health products

- Follow all FDA/USDA/EPA guidelines for product(s) utilized
- All products are to be used per label directions
- Extra-label drug use shall be kept to a minimum, and used only when prescribed by a licensed veterinarian working under a valid Veterinary Client Patient Relationship (VCPR)
- Strict adherence to extended withdrawal periods (as determined by the veterinarian within the context of a valid VCPR) shall be employed
- Products labeled for subcutaneous (SQ) administration should preferably be administered SQ in the neck region
- All products labeled for intramuscular (IM) use shall be given in the neck region only (no exceptions, regardless of age)
- All products cause tissue damage when injected IM; therefore, IM use should be avoided if possible
- Products cleared for SQ, IV or oral administration are recommended
- Products with low dosage rates are recommended and proper spacing between injection sites should be followed

Exercise caution to avoid accidental self-injection

- Always keep needles properly covered until ready to use
- Carry syringe in proper manner to ensure safe handling
- Handle loaded syringes with care
- Never carry loaded syringes in coat or pockets

What to do in case of self-injection

- Seek immediate medical attention
- Apply ice to injection site
- Take label for information
- Call Rocky Mountain Poison and Drug Center at 1-800-722-0987 and call 911

Notes: