



Principles for the  
**Responsible Use of Fluoroquinolones**  
in Veterinary Medicine



Prudent therapeutic use of fluoroquinolones in farm animals



In line with the company mission “Science For A Better Life”, Bayer Animal Health employs the latest scientific standards in order to ensure the highest possible quality, safety and efficacy of its veterinary medicinal products.

The position of Bayer Animal Health is that effective antibacterial agents are indispensable for the treatment of infected animals in order to safeguard animal health and well-being, and to provide healthy animal products for the consumer.

As one of the leading innovative Animal Health companies in the field of veterinary antibacterial therapy, Bayer Animal Health introduced Baytril® (enrofloxacin) in 1987 for use in farm animals. Enrofloxacin is an antibacterial of the fluoroquinolone class. Fluoroquinolones are used both in human and veterinary medicine for the treatment of serious bacterial infections.

Every use of antibacterial products, both in human and veterinary medicine, presents the possibility for selection of resistant bacteria. Bacteria, both susceptible and resistant, can be transferred from animals to humans, from humans to animals, from animals to animals, and also from humans to animals. Furthermore, bacteria can be transferred from animals to humans via the food chain. The degree of such food chain transfer of resistant bacteria and the associated risks for the consumer continues to be a source of controversy in the scientific community.

To minimize the risk of resistance selection during veterinary therapeutic use and to safeguard the future utility of the fluoroquinolone class of antibacterials in veterinary and human medicine, Bayer Animal Health is committed to promoting the prudent use of Baytril® (enrofloxacin) in farm animals.

Bayer Animal Health supports the veterinary profession as the most important partner in promoting and executing the prudent use of fluoroquinolones.

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## Prudent use principles for fluoroquinolones in farm animals supported and promoted by Bayer Animal Health

- Fluoroquinolones should be available by veterinary prescription only and should always be used under the supervision of and after the diagnosis of a bacterial infection by a licensed veterinarian
  - Only fluoroquinolones that have been registered for veterinary use by competent authorities, such as Baytril® (enrofloxacin), should be used in veterinary medicine
  - Fluoroquinolones should only be used as directed on the product label for each of the approved indications, including target animal species, bacterial pathogens to be treated, administration route, dosage, duration of treatment, and pre-slaughter withdrawal periods
  - Whenever possible, fluoroquinolones should only be used after isolation and determination of the susceptibility of the causative bacteria. As this is not always feasible for the individual animal due to unacceptable suffering, distress or lasting harm, the susceptibility profile of the bacterial pathogens should be regularly monitored at farm level
  - Records of all antimicrobial usage in farm animals should be kept by the veterinarian or the farmer
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## Bayer Animal Health objects to the following non-prudent uses of fluoroquinolones in farm animals

- Use as a performance enhancer/growth promoter in animal production
- Use in aquaculture
- In-feed use
- Use for viral infections or trivial bacterial infections
- Routine prophylactic use in healthy animals
- Any use deviating from the prudent use principles listed earlier, such as any “off” or “extra label use”
- Any use of unregistered products or counterfeits

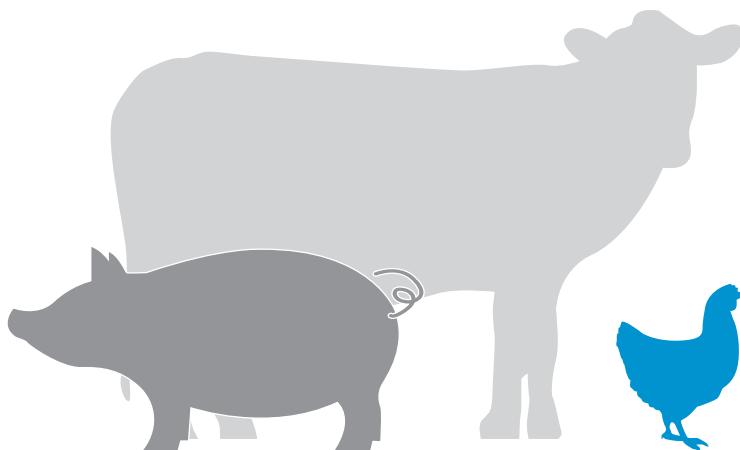
## Further commitments

In addition to the availability of antimicrobial therapy, Bayer Animal Health encourages the use of proven non-antimicrobial methods for infectious disease mitigation including good animal management, hygiene practices and disease prevention.

Bayer Animal Health is further committed to:

- Researching and developing innovative antimicrobial classes with novel mode of action
- Researching and developing alternative strategies to antimicrobial treatment
- Monitoring the susceptibility status of major target animal and zoonotic bacterial pathogens to Baytril® (enrofloxacin)
- Supporting all legal measures to combat counterfeit products at a national and international level

Bayer Animal Health is committed to furthering Science For A Better Life for animals together with veterinarians and farmers.



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