

SAFE HANDLING and USE GUIDELINES for VETERINARY PRODUCTS

Courtesy of:

Safe use of injectable drugs begins with you — read, understand and follow all label directions and observe all caution statements and human warnings.

SAFETY FIRST

Worker safety

- Consult your veterinarian for safe handling and use training prior to administering injectable products
- Store injectable products in a secure location not accessible to children or the general public
- 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, roles and responsibilities
- Evaluate the experience of those around you

Animal safety

- Use adequate facilities (e.g., squeeze chute, head gate)
- Minimize handling stress in accordance with animal behavior
- Adjust your activity to 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 used needles and bottles
- Recycle all injectable syringes and bottle packaging



Beef Quality Assurance Program (BQA)¹ guidelines for injectable animal-health products

- Follow 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 only when prescribed by a licensed veterinarian working within a valid Veterinarian 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
- No more than 10 cc of product should be administered per injection site

Exercise caution to avoid accidental self-injection

- Keep needles properly covered until ready to use
- Carry syringes in proper manner to ensure safe handling
- Handle loaded syringes with care
- Never carry loaded syringes in coat or pockets
- If syringe is broken or damaged in any way, discontinue use immediately
- Exercise caution when removing needle from syringe

What to do in case of self-injection

Seek **immediate medical attention** and:



REACH for and apply ice pack (if recommended by manufacturer)



REFERENCE product label and provide to emergency medical personnel



REMEMBER to contact Rocky Mountain Poison and Drug Center (RMPDC) at **1-800-722-0987** or local poison control center at **1-800-222-1222**

Notes:



www.elanco.us