

FDA – Veterinary Feed Directive Regulation

The FDA's revised Veterinary Feed Directive (VFD) rule, which governs the use of antibiotics used in livestock feed, will place new responsibilities on veterinarians, producers and distributors such as feed mills.

Under the new rule, a client recipient of an animal feed containing a VFD drug or a combination VFD drug must:

- Only feed animal feed bearing or containing a VFD drug or a combination VFD drug to animals based on a VFD issued by a licensed veterinarian.
- Feed a VFD feed or combination VFD feed to animals by no later than the expiration date on the VFD.
- Provide a copy of the VFD order to the distributor if the issuing veterinarian sends the distributor's copy of the VFD through you, the client.
- Maintain a copy of the VFD order for a minimum of two years.
- Provide VFD orders for inspection and copying by FDA upon request.

Under the FDA rule, veterinarians must issue VFDs within the context of a veterinarian-client-patient-relationship (VCPR). Specific requirements of the VCPR, such as the client agreeing to follow the instructions of the Veterinarian, are contained within individual states' VCPR rules.

For additional information, go to online to **fda.gov** or call 240-402-7002