



WCABP

Western Canadian Association
of Bovine Practitioners



newsletter

Volume 11 No.2 June 2006

President's Message



Charles Darwin once stated that it is not the strongest or the fastest of a species that will survive but it is those that are most adaptable to change.

It has never ceased to amaze me how our profession and the agricultural community keep changing. The events of the previous two years with regards to BSE have had a profound impact on our clients and our practices. The clients that have thrived in the face of economic hardship were those that relied the most on our services. As with grain farming, as margins decrease, there is less room for making decisions by the seat of your pants. We as veterinarians are being viewed more so now as sources of information and probably less as technicians. It is unfortunate that it took BSE for some people to figure it out. Our herd work and vaccine sales are up this year while the emergency stuff has remained the same; the export services were a nice bonus. I expect most large animal practices were the same.

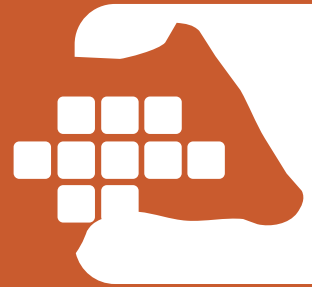
The veterinary practices that have done well were those that had the best handle on their overhead costs while at the same time looked for opportunities. It is quite amazing how important small animals became in most mixed practices. This speaks well for the adaptability of our colleagues. Also, many of the undergraduates in WCVM would like to do mixed animal practice upon graduation; therefore the change in services offered in many practices may help the owners attract an associate. How many of you wanted to restrict your scope of practice upon graduation?

We have once again hired a veterinary student for the summer months. The reasons for doing this are, firstly we should always be willing to share our knowledge with the up and coming. This goes beyond diagnosing and treating animals. Our students also learn how to deal with the public, how to deal with fellow workers, how to manage a business, and what it means to belong to a profession. What we get from our students is an insight as to what is important to them. They bring exuberance to the job, flushing abscesses is exciting, in fact, every day is exciting. We are challenged as to why we do the things we do as far as treatments, and current treatment protocols or procedures are suggested. We also are able to maintain a vital link to the rest of the student population. This is critically important when it comes time to hire a graduate veterinarian.

The WCABP is very fortunate to have a good relationship with the WCABP student chapter at the WCVM. The Club is quite active and has a large membership. If any large animal practitioners want to take the time to teach preg checking, feedlot health, or other large animal skills, I am sure there is a student that will be only too willing to travel with you on a weekend, just email the Club. The experience just might benefit everyone.

By the time you read this, everyone should be in slow down mode for the summer. If you find yourself driving through Swift Current, please stop by. I welcome the visit and would be happy to show you around. The Cypress Hills are close by and they are a truly beautiful area to camp or go horseback riding, or golf for those so inclined. 🐾

Take Care,
Doug Mann



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Ray Butler 'Seeing Practice' Bursary Program

Have you considered a donation to the Ray Butler 'Seeing Practice' Bursary? Donations are used to provide bursaries to budding veterinarians who have shown an interest in large animal practice. The future of your practice may well depend upon someone who has taken up large animal practice as a result of a Bursary.



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Secretary-Treasurer's Report



The Board met on February 27th and April 20th, with the main topics of discussion being: review of the 2006 conference; next year's conference in Saskatoon; progress towards establishing a Canadian Association of Bovine Practitioners (CABP); release, marketing and technical support of the Vaccination Certificate program; new initiative

to develop an electronic version of the Breeding Soundness Evaluation (BSE) forms; response to the CVMA regarding their latest initiative regarding the development of additional prudent use guidelines; and the reappointment of Dr. Sylvia Checkley as the WCABP representative on the Johne's Working Committee.

The full Conference attendance numbers were down slightly from the previous year and we attribute much of this decrease to the rebound in bovine practice; veterinarians were too busy doing export work to take three days off. However, our budgeting is fairly conservative and we still managed to turn a profit of approximately \$5,000. We are now busy lining up the 2007 conference. Tye Perrett is this year's Conference Chair and he and Ray Butler will have the majority of the speakers lined up within the next couple of months. On the topic of CE, we are also actively looking at hosting a one-day regional dairy course in the B.C. lower mainland in late October-early November. A second course may also be offered at this time in Manitoba. We are looking for topics and potential speakers - please let me know if you have any ideas.

The Vaccination Certificate Program is now available for sale. To date, we have sold approximately 15 copies of the program and have only received one

minor technical question, which the veterinarian was able to solve on his own. While there were delays in getting the program developed, we believe it was important to "get it right the first time". Early indications are that the program is robust and user-friendly. The development of this program has led us to talk of resurrecting the old BSE program. This program was developed in the mid 90's and was not well received, partly because it was ahead of its time and because of issues with running it in Microsoft Access. The Board is in the process of costing out the development of a new program, which will have a much wider range of features.

We continue to be much more proactive when it comes to expressing our support or opposition to third-party initiatives or programs that affect our membership. For example, the CVMA is moving forward on expanding its species-specific prudent use guidelines for the beef and dairy cattle. After careful consideration of the guidelines we determined that their initiative was not scientifically based and ran counter to the central tenets set out in their general guidelines for prudent use. We have also been engaged in correspondence with the CFIA. The first matter involved requesting an extension on the time period for claiming rebates on the RFID readers. The second matter involves the export of cattle to the United States and issues that arise when there are infractions (i.e. errors in the paperwork or the discovery of early pregnancies). On this issue we are looking for clarity on what constitutes minor and major infractions, and what are the associated penalties for each. 🐾

Respectfully submitted,

Murray Jelinski
Secretary-Treasurer

2007 Conference - Be There!

The 2007 WCABP Conference, under the chairmanship of Dr. Tye Perrett, will be held at the Saskatoon Inn and Conference Centre from Thursday through Saturday, January 18th to 20th.

Recognizing that an early start goes a long way with ensuring a quality meeting, Tye and his planning group are already putting together the outlines for beef and dairy in-depth seminars and other scientific sessions, including the Dr. O.M. Radostits Seminars. Special attention is being taken to ensure that all sessions will provide current, useful information that is targeted for the western Canadian cattle practitioner.

The Saskatoon Inn has again been selected as the Conference hotel, in recognition of the WCABP's favorable experiences at five previous conventions.

A block of rooms has been reserved for WCABP conference goers at the attractive rate of \$115 (single or double). The rate applies to deluxe (one or two queen-size beds) or Business Class and will apply for all reservations booked by December 22, 2006. All rooms provide convenient amenities including: complimentary high-speed internet access, complimentary daily newspaper, cable equipped remote televisions and in-room coffee.

Located near the swimming pool, the Inn's exercise room is equipped with a stationary bicycle, treadmill and elliptical trainer, weights and a sit-up board plus a supply of towels, a water cooler and a television.

Watch upcoming newsletters for details of the 2007 Conference as they are confirmed. 🐾

Think Large!

PLEASE CONTACT THE WCABP OFFICE FOR ANY OF THE THINK LARGE MATERIALS.

2007 WCABP
Conference
January 18-20, 2007
Saskatoon Inn
Saskatoon, SK

Meetings of Interest

WESTERN COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE AND SASKATCHEWAN VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION JOINT CONFERENCE. June 8-10, 2006 at the Delta Bessborough Hotel in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. Contact: www.usask.ca/wcvm or www.svma.sk.ca

THE 58TH ANNUAL CANADIAN VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION (CVMA) CONVENTION. July 5-8, 2006 at the Delta St. John's Hotel & Conference Centre in St. John's, Newfoundland. Contact: Linda B. Huskins, CMP, Canadian Veterinary Medical Association, 339 Booth Street, Ottawa, Ontario K1R 7K1; tel.: (613) 236-1162, ext. 126 or 1-800-567-2862, ext. 126; e-mail: lhuskins@cvma-acmv.org; Web site: www.canadianveterinarians.net

NORTHEAST VETERINARY CONFERENCE. August 20-21, 2006 at the Four Points by Sheraton Hyannis Resort in Cape Cod, Massachusetts, USA. Contact: Office of Continuing Education; tel.: (508) 887-4723; e-mail: susan.brogan@tufts.edu; Web site: <http://www.tufts.edu/vet/nevc>

CANWEST VETERINARY CONFERENCE. October 14-17, 2006 at the Fairmont Chateau Whistler, in Whistler, British Columbia. Contact: Louise Crowe, British Columbia Veterinary Medical Association; tel.: (604) 929-7090; e-mail: lcrowe@bcvma.org; Web site: www.bcvma.org or Midge Landals, Alberta Veterinary Medical Association; tel.: (780) 489-5007; e-mail: midge.landals@avma.ab.ca; Web site: www.avma.ab.ca

THINK LARGE materials are available from the WCABP Office. These include:

- Brochures, which highlight some of the attractive features of a career in bovine practice. Twenty-five copies are available to each member free of charge. Additional copies will be invoiced to you at our cost (approximately 43 cents/copy).
- A 23-slide Power Point presentation that expands on the theme presented in the brochure. The presentation can be downloaded from the WCABP website www.wcabp.com
- A 12½-minute video presentation (VHS) also titled Think Large. In addition to the standard VHS tapes, we have DVDs as well as CDs (suitable for use in exhibits), which may be borrowed for your use.



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The WCABP Newsletter is published by the Association as a service to its members. The views expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of WCABP. Correspondence concerning the Newsletter should be directed to the WCABP Office.



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REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE

The following email was received by the WCABP. If you are able to be of assistance, please contact David directly.

Dear Sir/Madame:

My name is David Castillejos. I work as a veterinary in Agusalientes, Mexico and have my own mixed practice. I did an Internship in food animal internal medicine and surgery in Illinois University. At this moment I am preparing for the National Board Examination so that I am able to work in Canada. In the meantime I would like to find a job in Canada related to veterinary medicine.

Sincerely,

David Catillejos,
 MVZ

www.wcabp.com

TO KEEP TABS ON
 YOUR ASSOCIATION & YOUR INDUSTRY

- 2006 Conference Proceedings
- Numerous links to sites of interest
- Latest industry information
- Vet Advice columns (contributed by WCABP members, and published in the Canadian Cattleman)

Nominations for the Boehringer-Ingelheim WCABP Veterinarian of the Year

We urge all members to read the following nomination procedures and selection criteria. It is not too early to start thinking about deserving recipients for the 2006 Award.

Criteria to consider for nominees:

The veterinarian must be a member in good standing with their respective association, or if retired, to have been a member in good standing at the time of retirement. The Boehringer Ingelheim WCABP Veterinarian of the Year Award nominee should be a WCABP member; however, the Board may choose to recognize a non-WCABP veterinarian who has made a significant contribution to bovine practice in Western Canada. Deadlines for all nominations will be December 1st of each year.

By this award, the WCABP is attempting to honour, or recognize, a veterinarian who embodies some, but not necessarily all, of the following criteria:

- 1) History of service and dedication to veterinary practice and the cattle industry.
- 2) History of service to the veterinary profession, specifically to the WCABP and other Western Canadian provincial veterinary associations.

- 3) Reputation for clinical competency or for being a pioneer or leader in bovine medicine, surgery, or herd health.
- 4) If the nominee is a non-member, then this person must have a national or international reputation related to bovine medicine, surgery and herd health, and their accomplishments must have had a positive influence on bovine practice in Western Canada.



Nomination Procedure:

A call for nominations will be included in the two Newsletters leading up to the deadline for nominations. A notification for a call for nominations will be posted on the website for at least 90 days leading up to the deadline for nominations. The Secretary-Treasurer (S-T) may elect to send an email to all members requesting nominations.

Each nomination must include a brief biography and a rationale for why you believe this person is deserving of the award. The letter of nomination will be printed in the first Newsletter following the granting of the award. The S-T will collect all the nominations and present them to the Board for review and selection. The S-T will then make contact, at least two weeks in advance of the meeting, advising the recipient of the place and time of the award.

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY VETERINARY SCHOOL

Please visit www.vet.ucalgary.ca in order to obtain the latest information as well as questions and answers regarding the establishment of the University of Calgary Veterinary School.

LINK TO CANADIAN CATTLEMEN'S MONTHLY REPORT

General information on the Canadian Cattlemen's Association (CCA) can be found on their website at www.cattle.ca. The "Media Room" section provides copies of the latest news and audio releases as well as copies of the CCA Monthly report. Daily updates are available at www.info-cca.ca.

Canadian Beef Receives Good Reviews from Japanese Consumers

Canada's beef industry is working hard to re-establish itself in the Japanese market and early response is encouraging. A Canadian contingent participated in FOODEX, Japan's largest food and beverage trade show, which brings together over 2,000 exhibitors from more than 70 countries. The Canada Beef Export Federation (CBEF) and several beef exporters represented Canadian beef at the recently concluded show. CBEF promotes Canadian beef in Japan and other non-U.S. markets. The Canadian Cattlemen's Association is a member of CBEF.

Cam Daniels, CBEF Vice-President, Export Services, attended FOODEX in Japan. He says, "For the first time in several years we were able to display our Canadian beef proudly, knowing that the market is now open to Canada. It's a good feeling to be back in the market. It was a thrill for me to be in Japan visiting the retail outlets and to see Canadian beef products once again displayed proudly on the Japanese retail counter".

Canadian marketing efforts include several tasting and sampling promotions at Japanese grocery stores. All available Canadian beef is moving through the system well.

Report from the WCVB Bovine Club

The students at WCVB have completed another year and I am sure that many are currently busy in clinics and at their respective summer jobs. However, since the last newsletter the WCVB Bovine Club has held numerous events, one of which was the WCABP Student Seminar. On Thursday, March 23rd the WCABP and Novartis sponsored a pizza supper and talk by Doug Price. All the students were very enlightened by this talk as Doug Price was able to present an industry perspective of what is expected from food animal veterinarians today. He was also able to present the aspects of strategic marketing and the importance of export into international markets. It was a very good talk and was enjoyed by all.

The next event was the WCVB Bovine Club Wrap-up Banquet on April 6th. This was held at Rodeo's in Saskatoon and a steak dinner was enjoyed by the Bovine Club members, WCVB professors who have participated in Club events throughout the year, and WCABP staff (Ken Barteski, Phyllis Mierau, and WCABP President Dr. Doug Mann).

Following the delicious meal, the elections were held. Next year's WCVB Bovine Club executive is:

President: Jolene Meindersma (2008)	Vice President: Rhea Plesman (2008)
Secretary/Treasurer: Tiffany Pomeranski (2008)	PR Rep: Victor Kernalguen (2008)
3rd Year Rep: Rebecca Bruinooge (2008)	2nd Year Rep: Amy Konschuh (2009)

Elections went really well and we are looking forward to working together during the upcoming year! I also want to thank the professors at WCVB (Dr. John Campbell, Dr. Chris Clark, Dr. Steven Hendrick, Dr. Albert Barth, and Dr. Joe Stookey) for their contributions to the Club this year.

The last event of the year (April 10) was a presentation by Feedlot Health Management Services. The veterinarians that came out included Dr. Tye Perrett (WCABP's President-Elect) and Dr. Calvin Booker. FHMS sponsored supper and spoke about what FHMS does, what the goals of the operation are, and what the veterinarian's role is within FHMS. All enjoyed the presentation and we would like to thank FHMS for taking the time to come and speak with us.

The year has gone well for the WCVB Bovine Club and we look forward to a fun and active 2006-2007.

Jolene Meindersma
President

Member News

Dr. Grant Royan was recently honoured by the Farm Animal Council of Saskatchewan (FACS) and the Saskatchewan Horse Federation with the first Award of Distinction - Equine Welfare Innovation. He was recognized for his outstanding contribution to the welfare of horses in Saskatchewan. His career has included private clinical practice, provincial government laboratory and most recently in the pharmaceutical field. Dr. Royan has shared his many talents, as a volunteer for the Saskatchewan Horse Federation, Board of Directors for Agribition, Animal Health Committee of CWA and both the SVMA and CVMA. Congratulations Grant!



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Administrator's Report

The Vaccination Certificate Program was released for sale on April 5th. To obtain your copy, print out an order form from our website (www.wcabp.com) or call 1-866-269-8387. We have also been busy shipping Bull Soundness Evaluation Forms to veterinarians throughout Western Canada. These forms are also available from WDDC and Mid-West Drug Distribution Center.

Time has been spent on preliminary planning meetings for the 2007 WCABP Conference (January 18-20, 2007) at the Saskatoon Inn.

A reminder that the MEMBER ONLY section of the website requires a Username and Password. Call the WCABP office at 1-866-269-8387 to obtain this information. Please note that the information contained in the MEMBERS ONLY section is provided to you as a privilege of being a member of WCABP, so please ensure that the Username and Password are held in strict confidence and for your own use only.

Have an enjoyable summer!

Phyllis Mierau/Cheryl Pasulyko
Administrators

Disease Investigation Program

By Dr. LeeAnn Forsythe, Surveillance Veterinarian, SAF

The Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCV) has provided a disease investigation service out of the Department of Large Animal Sciences for many years. This service is provided by a group of clinicians and epidemiologists at the WCV for private veterinarians who have cases that are more complex or require extra resources that are not available from the producer and private veterinarian. This unit provides support for rural veterinarians in dealing with these complex disease investigations so that certain diseases are ruled out and emerging diseases are detected.

To support and build on the work done by the disease investigation unit, Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food will provide \$50,000 per year for the next three years for disease investigations. This new funding would provide some stability for the disease investigation unit and provide the expertise needed to conduct disease investigations. Early detection of disease outbreaks can reduce the overall costs to industry and government. Support for disease investigations will benefit the livestock industry and the public by enhancing the province's foreign animal disease preparedness, strengthening our veterinary infrastructure, supporting rural veterinary practitioners, and reinforcing SAF partnerships with industry and academia.

For any inquiries regarding the disease investigation unit at the WCV please contact Dr. John Campbell, (306) 966-7158.



Kevin Hiemstra
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Update on the University of Calgary's Faculty of Veterinary Medicine

The University of Calgary is pleased to announce Dr. Alastair Cribb has accepted the position of Dean, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine.

Dr. Cribb, who was recruited in April as Associate Dean of Research and Faculty Affairs accepted the post the middle of May. Coming to the U of C from the University of Prince Edward Island, Cribb was the founding director of the PEI Health Research Institute and held a Canada Research Chair in Comparative Pharmacology/Toxicology.

He received his DVM with Distinction from the Western College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Saskatchewan in 1984. Following a small animal internship at Michigan State University, he entered mixed animal practice in Nova Scotia.

In 1991, Cribb received his PhD in clinical pharmacology from the University of Toronto. After working in industry for several years, Cribb then began his academic career in 1996 at UPEI.

"I believe that Dr. Cribb will provide strong leadership for this new Faculty and hope that you will join me in extending congratulations to him and wishing him success," said University President Harvey Weingarten, in making the announcement.

Weingarten also acknowledged the significant contribution made by outgoing interim Dean, Dr. Eugene Janzen, who will remain in his permanent role of Associate Dean, Clinical Partnerships.

Cribb says his first priority is communication. "I want to let our partners at the University and in the community know about our vision and plans for the future."

About 50 practicing veterinarians heard about that vision only days after Cribb accepted the role at the first community meeting with veterinarians in Calgary. Hosted by the new Dean and senior faculty, Drs. Eugene Janzen and Carl Ribble, Associate Dean, Education, the audience was interested in learning about the development of the curriculum, lead by Dr. Ribble and the creation of the clinical programs and distributed teaching hospital, lead by Dr. Janzen. Dr. Cribb told the crowd, "We are doing some things that are different. And, we may attract students because of that; people who may not have considered veterinary school before."

Before we can accept those students the Faculty needs to be accredited. The American Veterinary Medical Association's Council on Education will come to Calgary for a consultative visit at the end of June. This will provide the information needed to pursue a full site visit towards the

end of this year. If this site visit is successful, the Faculty will receive a letter of reasonable assurance in late March of 2007 and continue to work toward the goal of opening to students in fall of 2007.

The Faculty of Veterinary Medicine is Canada's fifth veterinary school and the first new program of its type in the country in over 20 years. An exciting development in Alberta, the new vet school promises to put the province in the forefront of research into important issues such as animal diseases and food safety supply.

The Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) program will cover the full range of species and disciplines of veterinary medical education in the junior years of the curriculum. In addition to this core, the program will also focus on areas important to Alberta and Western Canada, preparing graduates for community and rural practice. Three major themes important for veterinary medicine in the 21st century will underlie the entire curriculum; these include Production Animal Medicine, Ecosystem Health and Investigative Medicine. Therefore, in the students' senior year after completing a series of core clinical rotations, the students will have an opportunity to focus on one of these three areas in clinical, field and/or laboratory settings.



WCABP

Western Canadian Association of Bovine Practitioners

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Industry Specialist, Beef



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Thank You from WCVM

In response to the membership voting at the 2006 AGM to donate \$25,000 over a three-year period towards the WCVM expansion, the following letter was received in response:

Dear WCABP Members:

I would like to thank you for your pledge of \$25,000 to the Veterinary Teaching Hospital Expansion at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVM).

We are building for the future to make sure our outstanding record in education, research and service will continue for future decades. Our \$57 million expansion and renovation of College facilities and equipment is underway.

WCVM continues its long tradition of providing the highest quality academic and professional programs to its students. We are very proud of the outstanding accomplishments of our alumni as they go on to bring recognition to themselves and the College nationally and internationally.

Each year the Veterinary Teaching Hospital cares for 15,000 animals and approximately 30,000 animals are treated through 3,600 field service visits. WCVM is also home to recognized world-class research programs covering a broad range of species and disciplines.

This past year we celebrated our 40th anniversary. I invite you to visit our website at www.wcvm.com to find out more about the important work of WCVM and updates on the Veterinary Teaching Hospital expansion.

In recognition of your support, your name will be recorded on our donor wall as: Western Canadian Association of Bovine Practitioners.

Thank you again for your investment in the future of the Western College of Veterinary Medicine. Your support will make a difference!

Sincerely,

Charles S. Rhodes
Dean

Intra-Abdominal Antimicrobial Use in Cattle

By Alan Chicoine, DVM

Background and Survey Design

The CgFARAD has received many requests for meat and milk withdrawal recommendations after perioperative extra-label use of antimicrobials, including the intra-abdominal infusion of antimicrobials. There is little data in the literature to substantiate or refute this practice. Klein et al¹ found evidence of peritonitis and extended milk withdrawals after intra-abdominal infusions of various ampicillin formulations. Before pursuing a kinetic trial to evaluate this practice, we surveyed members of the WCABP on their antimicrobial use during bovine abdominal surgery. The results of this survey guided our specific course of research. In June of 2005, 240 surveys were mailed to members of the Western Canadian Association of Bovine Practitioners. Surveys were mailed back in pre-paid envelopes over the following 6 weeks. The response rate was an excellent 40.8% (98/240). Responses were anonymous; no follow-up with non-respondents was available.

Survey Results

- 96/98 respondents treat 100% of cows with a perioperative antimicrobial. A survey bias may be present, as veterinarians who routinely use perioperative antimicrobials may be more likely to respond than non-users.
- 52/98 respondents never administer preoperative antimicrobials before bovine abdominal surgery.
- 79/98 respondents administer postoperative antimicrobials to at least 75% of their surgical patients.
- 36/98 respondents administer intra-abdominal antimicrobials in $\geq 50\%$ of abdominal surgeries.
- Penicillin and oxytetracycline were either the first or second most commonly used antimicrobial at each time point.

Survey Conclusions

- Perioperative antimicrobial use is routine during bovine abdominal surgery.
- The most common time for antimicrobial administration is postoperatively.
- Preoperative antimicrobial administration is less common than post- or intra-operative use. Some preoperative drugs used are long-acting formulations that will not achieve therapeutic plasma concentrations by the time surgery is underway.
- Intra-abdominal antimicrobial infusions are commonly performed.
- The milk and meat withdrawal times recommended by veterinarians after intra-abdominal use of antimicrobials were inconsistent and appeared arbitrary. Few respondents mentioned milk or antemortem testing.
- Procaine penicillin G and oxytetracycline were the most commonly administered perioperative antimicrobials. Some clearly inappropriate drugs were administered, such as the intra-abdominal neomycin (inappropriate spectrum of activity, physical irritation, prolonged residues), nitrofurazone (banned in food producing animals), and chlorhexidine (physical irritation).

Objectives Of Ongoing Intra-Abdominal Antimicrobial Research

- Plasma kinetics: Determine the systemic absorption and potential efficacy of procaine penicillin G after intra-abdominal infusion in lactating dairy cows by measuring plasma concentrations in relation to the minimum inhibitory concentrations (MIC) of bovine

pathogens.

- Milk and meat residues: Develop a residue depletion curve for penicillin in milk and determine if a 10 day meat withdrawal is sufficient after intra-abdominal administration of a label intramuscular dose.
- Safety: Determine if intra-abdominal infusions of penicillin cause inflammation, adhesions, or peritonitis in cattle.

Preliminary Research Results

A pilot project was conducted in April 2006 to determine basic pharmacokinetic parameters of intra-abdominal penicillin use. This will be followed by further studies on more cows in the following months. Procaine penicillin G (Pen G Injection, Vetoquinol) was administered to 2 lactating Holstein cows at a dose of 21,000 IU/kg (3 cc/100 lb, or label IM dose) via intra-abdominal infusion. Blood and milk samples were taken over the following 10 days. Leukograms and fibrinogen concentrations were unremarkable for both cows over the trial. Evidence of mild peritonitis was present in one cow at necropsy, but cannot be specifically attributed to penicillin administration. No depots of penicillin were found in the abdomens. The intra-abdominal absorption of penicillin was very rapid ($T_{max} < 1$ hr) and depletion from the plasma occurred by 24 hours (figure 1). Milk was positive for penicillin residues for the first 3 milkings using the IDEXX SNAP B-lactam test kit, which can detect residues as low as 2 ppb (table 1). It must be stressed, however, that these findings are preliminary. As $n = 2$, the results cannot be extrapolated to the general population. As well, these results cannot be applied to antimicrobials other than procaine penicillin G.

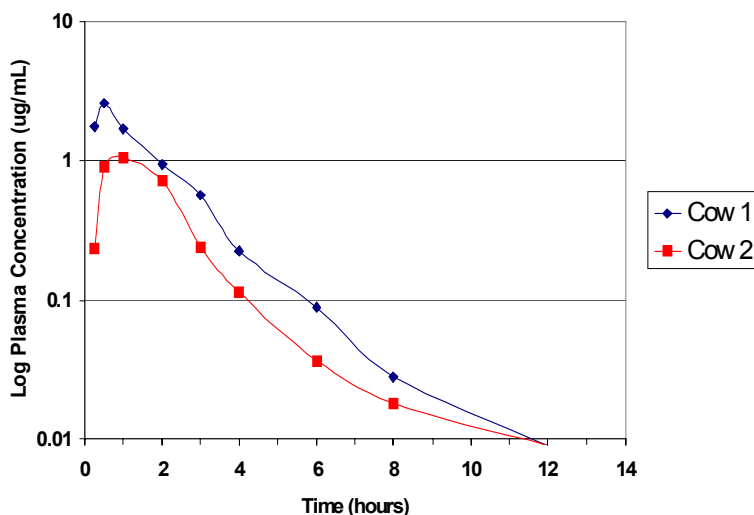
¹Klein et al, (1989) Intra-abdominal versus intramuscular application of two ampicillin preparations in cows. Journal of Veterinary Pharmacology and Therapeutics, 12, 141-146.

Time after Pen G infusion	Cow 1 Milk Residues IDEXX SNAP B-lactam		Cow 2 Milk Residues IDEXX SNAP B-lactam	
	HPLC		HPLC	
4 hr	460 ppb	Positive	80 ppb	Positive
16 hr	18 ppb	Positive	<5 ppb	Positive
28 hr	<5 ppb	Positive	<5 ppb	Positive
40 hr	<5ppb	Negative	<5 ppb	Inconclusive

Table 1: Penicillin residues in milk after intra-abdominal infusion

Figure 1:

Plasma Pen G Concentration vs Time after Intra-Abdominal Administration (21,000 IU/kg)






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