



Proper Injection-Site Protocols to Prevent Violative Residues in Sows

Key Point

Using proper injection techniques will help increase product efficacy and absorption, while reducing injection-site reactions, broken needles and residues.

Author: Steve Larsen, National Pork Board

If correct dosage of a product is more than 10 milliliters, as indicated by the label or as directed by a veterinarian, Checkoff research indicates you should follow these steps to prevent a violative residue. Failing to do so can cause a delay in absorption that may result in a violative residue in the meat.

- Give no more than 10mls in any injection site.
- Separate injection sites by at least 3 inches when multiple injections must be given to deliver the appropriate dose.
- Separate injection sites by at least 3 inches from the previous day's injection site when multiple-day therapy is needed.
- Never deposit more than 10 mls of an injectable antimicrobial product in one site.

Proper Injection-Site Locations

This illustration demonstrates multiple injection sites (left and right sides) when administering medications for consecutive days. Administering medications in different injection sites is important to increase product efficacy and eliminate violative residues.

When giving a proper injection in the muscle (Intramuscular - IM):

- Use a spot on the neck just behind and below the ear, but in front of shoulder.
- Do not use a needle to inject in the ham or loin, unless directed to do so by your veterinarian.
- Use the proper size and length of needle to ensure the medication is deposited in the muscle, not in other tissues.
- Change the needle when appropriate to maintain cleanliness and sharpness.
- Never straighten a bent needle.



Illustration adapted from: <http://www.smithlifescience.com/ExpertMammalStudy.htm>