

**National Pork Board Policy on Antibiotic Use in Pork Production**  
**June 4, 2015**

On behalf of America's pig farmers, the National Pork Board has created the following values that reflect farmers' commitment to using antibiotics responsibly on the farm. We affirm that:

- Using antibiotics responsibly in animals and humans is essential to protect the health and well-being of both.
- Preventing disease, rather than treating disease, by using disease-prevention strategies, that may include antibiotics, is essential for animal health and well-being and can prevent unnecessary illness, suffering and mortality.
- Protecting the efficacy of antibiotics is important today because it can help ensure the overall health and well-being of future generations of people and animals.
- Reducing the need to use medically important antibiotics by using best management practices is a worthy objective.

We agree to implement the following guidelines to demonstrate our values. They include:

- Advocating objective, scientifically rigorous studies and risk assessments to make informed decisions regarding on-farm use of antibiotics in food-animal production.
- Supporting veterinarian oversight and best practices as the basis of antimicrobial use decision-making on the farm.
  - Continual evaluation of treatment programs, appropriate diagnostics and timely interventions are important components of veterinary best practices.
- Promoting stakeholder education to continually enhance on-farm knowledge to improve antibiotic best practices.
  - Antibiotic stewardship guidance for veterinarians and pork producers includes Pork Quality Assurance® Plus, American Association of Swine Veterinarians' Basic Guidelines of Judicious Therapeutic Use of Antimicrobials in Pork Production and continuing education for veterinarians.
- Demonstrating compliance with all regulatory requirements to underscore antibiotic stewardship, e.g., treatment records as described in PQA Plus®.
- Encouraging transparency and providing assurances regarding farmers' commitment to raising healthy animals to help ensure a safe food supply.