

Reading Medication Labels

Alaena Wilfong, Extension Educator

Goal (learning objective)

Youth will learn how to read, interpret, and identify all the parts of a medication label and insert.

Supplies

- Handout 1 - "Medication Label" - enough copies for group.
- Handout 2 - "Medication Insert" - enough copies for group.
- Handout 3 - "Medication Insert and Medication Label Parts" - enough copies for group.
- Handout 4 - "Guide to Reading Drug Label; on Outside of Container" - enough copies for group.
- Handout 5 - "Medication Insert" - 1 copy - answer key for your reference
- Handout 6 - "Medication Label" - 1 copy - answer key for your reference
- Tape or glue sticks - enough for everyone to share
- Scissors - enough for everyone to share

Pre-lesson preparation

- Make photo copies of the above handouts.
- Review the materials.
- Practice the lesson.

Lesson directions and outline

Share the following information with the youth:

Many types of products have labels and it is important to read them before using the product. Using medication on animals is no different. It is crucial that you read a product and understand the label before using it on an animal.

There are many different parts to a medication label and finding each piece of information may be difficult. However, with some practice you can find each important part of the medication label you need.

Conducting the activity (DO)

1. Review with the youth Handout 4.
2. Review with the youth Handouts 1, 2, and 3.
Youth will be matching parts to the appropriate spots on the Medication Label and Medication Insert.
3. Have youth carefully cut out the medication label parts out first (bottom of Handout 3).
4. Have youth tape (or glue) medication label parts on Handout 1.
5. Have youth carefully cut out the medication insert parts (top of Handout 3).
6. Have youth tape (or glue) medication insert parts on Handout 2.
7. Once youth have finished both examples, discuss each part, use the answer key.

What did we learn? (REFLECT)

- Ask: What is something you learned from the medication label that you did not know before you read it?
- Ask: Why should you administer medication to an animal according to the practice label?
- Ask: What are reasons why it is important to read a label before administering any type of medication?

Why is that important? (APPLY)

- Ask: How do you keep your animal safe by reading labels before administering medication to animals?
- Ask: How does following medication label information help you with Quality Assurance Practices? Why is that important?
- Ask: How can you apply what you learned when reading medicine labels on medicine that a doctor prescribes to you or a family member?

Resources

Ohio State University Extension. (2011). Caring for Animals. *Beef resource handbook* (pages 12-7 through 12-12).

Ohio State University Extension. (2008). Caring for Animals. *Goat resource handbook* (pages 164-170).

Ohio State University Extension. (2011). Caring for Animals. *Sheep resource handbook for market and breeding projects* (pages 140-144).

Ohio State University Extension. (2000). Caring for Animals. *Swine resource handbook for market and breeding projects* (pages 24-6 through 24-13).

Ohio State University Extension. (1999). Learning Lab Kits: Beef, Sheep, Swine, and Goat. Available from: <http://www.ohio4h.org/books-and-resources/learning-lab-kits> *Note: check first with your local county extension office on availability to check out*

Medication Label

_____ **OMNIBIOTIC** _____
(hydrocillin)

Directions for use: See package insert

Warning: The use of this drug must be discontinued for 30 days before treated animals are slaughtered for food. Exceeding the highest recommended dosage level may result in antibiotic residues in meat or milk beyond the withdrawal time.

Store between 2° and 8° C (36° and 46° F). _____
Keep dry and away from light.

_____ Net Contents: 100 ml
Distributed by
USA Animal Health, Inc. _____



Medication Insert

OMNIBIOTIC

(Hydrocillin in Aqueous Suspension)

For use in Beef Cattle, Lactating and Non-Lactating Dairy

Cattle, Swine and Sheep

Read Entire Brochure Carefully

Before Using This Product

For Intramuscular Use Only

Active Ingredients: Omnibiotic is an effective antimicrobial preparation containing hydrocillin hydrochloride. Each ml of this suspension contains 200,000 units of hydrocillin hydrochloride in an aqueous base.

Indications: **Cattle** - bronchitis, foot rot, leptospirosis, mastitis, metritis, pneumonia, wound infections; **Swine** - erysipelas, pneumonia; **Sheep** - foot rot, pneumonia, mastitis; and other infections in these species caused by or associated with hydrocillin-susceptible organisms.

Recommended Daily Dosage

The usual dose is 2 ml per 100 lb of body weight given once daily. Maximum dose is 15 ml/day.

Body Weight	Dosage
100 lb	2 ml
300 lb	6 ml
500 lb	10 ml
750 lb or more	15 ml

Continue treatment for 1 to 2 days after symptoms disappear.

Caution: 1. Omnibiotic should be injected deep within the fleshy muscle of the neck or thigh. Do not inject this material in the hip or rump, subcutaneously, into a blood vessel, or near a major nerve because it may cause tissue damage. 2. If improvement does not occur within 48 hours, the diagnosis should be reconsidered and appropriate treatment initiated. 3. Treated animals should be closely observed for at least 30 minutes. Should a reaction occur, discontinue treatment and immediately administer epinephrine and antihistamines. 4. Omnibiotic must be stored between 2° and 8° C (36° to 46° F). Warm to room temperature and shake well before using. Keep refrigerated when not in use.

Warning: Milk that has been taken from animals during treatment and for 48 hours (4 milkings) after the last treatment must not be used for food. The use of this drug must be discontinued for 30 days before treated animals are slaughtered for food.

How Supplied: Omnibiotic is available in vials of 100 ml.

TAKE TIME



OBSERVE LABEL
DIRECTIONS

HEALTH AND DISEASES: READING MEDICATION LABELS – HANDOUT 3



Medication Insert Parts (10)

Species and Animal Class	Approved Uses
Dosage	Route of Administration
Cautions and Warnings	Storage Requirements
Withholding Times	Sizes Available
Name of Drug	Active Ingredients



Medication Label Parts (7)

Name of Drug	Name of Distributor
Storage	Cautions and Warnings
Active Ingredients	Quantity of Contents
Withholding Times	

Guide to Reading Drug Label on Outside of Container

Active Ingredients: Chemical name(s) of what is in the drug.

Withholding/Withdrawal Times: Withdrawal time is the period that must elapse after the last treatment and before processing (harvest/slaughter) of the animal for its meat or harvesting animal products (milk, eggs) for human consumption. It is the time it takes for the drug/chemical to be used up by the animal's body after it has been administered (or the time it takes a drug/chemical to wear off). A residue is a substance that remains in an animal's body tissues after the animal has been exposed to that substance. The substance can enter the animal's body as a feed or water additive, as an injection or external treatment.*

Cautions and Warnings: Tells things to be cautious about when using the product. Examples: (a) Do not give to certain kinds of animals, (b) do not give too much, (c) pay attention to withholding times (see above).

Storage: Tells how the medication should be kept while not in actual use. Many medications may lose their potency when exposed to moisture, direct light, warm and/or freezing temperatures. Most also lose effectiveness with time. The label will indicate how the product should be stored to retain maximum strength.

Quantity of Contents: Tells how much is in the container. Usually in metric units [liquid measure: 1 fluid ounce = 29.6 milliliters (ml), 1 cubic centimeter (cc) = 1 milliliter (ml); dry measure: 1 pint = 551 milliliters (ml)].

Lot Number: (may also be referred to as serial number) A manufacturer's reference number indicating the day or batch in which this product was made. These numbers are needed if the product is recalled.

Date of Expiration: Discard (do not use) drugs when this date is reached.

*Remember, you are responsible for everything your animal consumes even if it is an accident.

Medication Insert

Name of Drug

OMNIBIOTIC

(Hydrocillin in Aqueous Suspension)

Active Ingredients

For use in Beef Cattle, Lactating and Non-Lactating Dairy

Species and
Animal Class

Cattle, Swine and Sheep

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Dosage

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Route of
AdministrationStorage
Requirements

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Withholding
TimesSizes
Available

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OBSERVE LABEL
DIRECTIONS

Medication Label

Name of Drug _____

OMNIBIOTIC

Active Ingredients _____
(hydrocillin)

Directions for use: See package insert

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Store between 2° and 8° C (36° and 46° F). _____ Storage
Keep dry and away from light.

Quantity
of Contents _____

Net Contents: 100 ml

TAKE TIME



OBSERVE LABEL
DIRECTIONS

Distributed by

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