



IMPORTANT MEDICINE INFORMATION

Critically Important Antibiotics - What are they and how can I use them?

High Priority - Critically Important Antibiotics (HP-CIAs)

- Designated by the **European Medicines Agency (EMA)** as the antibiotics likely to pose a risk to **human health** through development of resistance following their use in **animals**.
- **3rd and 4th Generation Cephalosporins:**
 - **Lactating Cow:** Cobactan
 - **Dry Cow:** Cephaguard DC
 - **Injectable:** Cobactan, Cevaxel
- **Fluoroquinolones:**
 - **Marbofloxacin:** Marbox, Marbocyl
 - **Danofloxacin:** Advocin 180 (A180)
 - **Enrofloxacin:** Baytril, Baytril Max

What are they used for?

HP-CIAs are most commonly used in the treatment of mastitis. They can also be used for metritis, adult cow pneumonia and occasionally calf pneumonia.

When should I use these products?

As of 1st June for dairy and 1st April for beef and lamb, Red Tractor Assurance (RTA) states that these products must only be used as a last resort following vet advice and supported by appropriate diagnostics. That means that every time these products are used, your vet must be involved in the treatment choice and the animal must be sampled to show that no other product is likely to work. RTA Assessors will need vet consultation notes for each use of these products.

This makes using these products impractical. Will my animals not suffer?

Whilst the first part of this statement is true, in that in many cases other antibiotics will be found to be as suitable, it is not our experience that the lack of these products will lead to worse outcomes for health. We have many farms who have not used CIAs for years without seeing any negative health effect.

If you have any questions, please speak to your vet