

Team Activity: "Veterinary Feed Directive and Antimicrobial Use in Food Animals"

A 2000 head beef feedlot calls your veterinary practice for a consultation. High risk cattle are sourced from local sale barns and the yard is experiencing issues with Bovine Respiratory Disease (BRD) upon arrival. The feedlot has a 5% mortality rate due to respiratory issues. Identify the steps involved for the feedlot to obtain a Veterinary Feed Directive (VFD). Research what feed additives would be appropriate choices. Who are the stakeholders in this process?

Last week a Facebook post claimed the local feed yard was abusing antibiotics and that all community members should boycott meat from that feed yard. To help diffuse the situation the feed yard is conducting a community meeting to educate the public about how they use antibiotics.

You will be the guest speaker at this meeting. You have 15 minutes to prepare your findings about what the feedlot needs to obtain a VFD at their yard. The judges will serve as “the community” and you will have to explain the purpose of VFD and questions will be directed to the producer, mill person, feed rep, and veterinarian.

Decide which team member will represent each stakeholder in the community meeting.