



**DR. MURRAY RUNSTEDLER DR. PAUL SOSTAR DR. ANDREW MACLEOD
DR. JOHN TOKARZ DR. KELLY HAELZLE DR. IAN BISHOP**

**3860 Manser Road, Linwood, Ontario N0B 2A0 (519) 698-2610
1-800-663-2941 Fax (519) 698-2081
linwoodvet@linwoodvet.ca**

Manser Rd. Clinic Hours 7am to 5pm Mon-Fri and 7am-12pm Saturday
Hwy 89 Clinic Hours 7am to 1pm Mon-Sat
24 Hour Emergency Service

OCTOBER 2010 NEWSLETTER

Clinic News

The clinic will be open 7am till 12 pm on Thanksgiving, Monday October 11th and emergency deliveries will be available through the vet on call. For regular deliveries please plan ahead.

Parasite Removal Reminder

It is the fall now and fall is time to remove those annoying crusty lesions seen on the sides of the tail heads of your cows. These crusty lesions indicate the presence of mange. Eprinex® is one very effective way to look after mange, lice and worms. Fall is the ideal time to apply.

Make Vaccinations Count

One of the most powerful tools in disease prevention is vaccination. The purpose of injecting a vaccine is to stimulate an immune system response called immunization. How effective this protection will be can depend a lot on how and when vaccines are used. The first principle with respect to vaccinations is that vaccines work. They have been tested thoroughly for safety and effectiveness. We have to remember where they work best is in healthy cattle fed a nutritionally balanced diet. Unfortunately, in the real world it is often difficult to give vaccines to animals of that description. This is why sometimes vaccines do not meet our expectations.

Remember: **“Vaccination does not mean Immunization”**

Keys to getting the most out of your vaccine investment:

- **Read the label.** Labels specify the age and species of animal in which the vaccine is to be used, recommend boosters if needed, describe storage conditions, and list the expiration date, warnings, and withdrawal times. Claims on the label have been tested according to government guidelines.
- Newborn calves can respond to some vaccines. The safety and effectiveness of a vaccine in a specific situation may not have been tested under government guidelines (extra-label), but the testing may have been done in the field by practicing veterinarians and their clients.
- Vaccines most often will recommend a second dose to be given two to four weeks after the first. These booster doses provide maximum immunity for young and naïve animals, and especially useful when heavy exposure to a disease organism is expected.
- Vaccines require energy. Calves with poor nutrition due to shipping, ration imbalances, poor mineral supplementation, heavy parasitism, or simply not fed adequate calories will be at risk of not being able to respond to the vaccine.
- Vaccines are not stress-free. They can create fever and produce chemical compounds and bacterial toxins that reduce appetite. Multiple vaccines in one day can mean lots of negative effects that lessen the animal's ability to respond optimally to each vaccine.

- Stress from outside events, such as shipping, handling, surgery, diet change, comingling, and adverse weather, also inhibits the immune system and prevents a desired response to vaccination.
- Sick animals cannot respond as they should to vaccination. Bacterial toxins from the illness interfere with the immune response but also depress appetite further reducing the energy to the immune system.
- Handle and store vaccines according to the label. Ensure that the fridge used is set at the recommended temperature. Pay attention to expiration dates. Use sterile needles; a needle used once for an injection is no longer a sterile needle. Also, only open the number of doses to be used that day.
- Address any concerns you might have with your veterinarian. Many issues can affect the degree of immunization that can be achieved. Every situation is different and one simple answer does not exist.

Inhibitor Residue Milk Testing

The official provincial regulatory tests for sulfa and tetracycline compounds has changed in April to a much more sensitive test far below the current Minimum Residual Levels (MRL). Milk samples following treatment must be evaluated using tests that detect antibiotic levels as close as possible to this new aMRL (allowable level). This will certainly require a review of our recommendations for withholding times in extra-label therapies. We have come up with the following recommendations to address this issue:

- Current Delvo testing seems to be sufficient to deal with lactating cow extra-label antibiotics **not** belonging to the 3 classes below.
- The antibiotics and CHARM tests are grouped into 3 classes: Beta-Lactam, Tetracycline and Sulfa. If the antibiotic which is suspected is known, then the appropriate test or tests can be done. An exception for example, is the unknown “sale barn” cow a combination of tests would be recommended.
- The CHARM SL-6([Beta-Lactams](#)) is an 8 minute test for the following; Amoxicillin, Ampicillin, Cephaprin, Ceftiofur, Penicillin G, and Cloxicillin.
- The CHARM ([Sulfa](#)) is far more sensitive and broader spectrum than the Delvo SP. This CHARM test takes 8 minutes and detects 12 types of sulfa antibiotics.
- The CHARM ([Tetracycline](#)) is more sensitive than the Delvo SP for the three antibiotics in this group; Chlortetracycline, Oxytetracycline and Tetracycline. This CHARM test requires 8 minutes as well.
- Linwood Veterinary Services will test your milk samples submitted based on the antibiotics you request testing for. Linwood Vet cannot verify the source of the sample, what drugs were used on the animals or whether the drugs were used off label, and therefore cannot guarantee test results.

We have decided to continue to offer milk sample testing services despite the added costs and complexities in order to provide you with options for good decision making in light of changes in regulatory testing. We are currently in the process of acquiring the tests and equipment required for CHARM testing for both clinics . Unlike the Delvo SP, the CHARM tests are very rapid and results should be available to producers within a shorter turn-around time.

We as veterinarians in partnership with you the milk producer have to strive to provide the highest quality pure milk possible for sale in Ontario. The industry demands it and the consumer whom we serve and protect must get it for this special trust to continue.