



106 School Street, Suite 201 Spring Mills, PA 16875
 Phone 814-422-0251 Fax 814-422-0255
 pco@paorganic.org www.paorganic.org

PCO - Guidance for Dairy Medical Treatments

An overview of the status and restrictions of livestock medical treatments under the National Organic Program (21 CFR§205.238, §205.603).

All medical treatments and withhold periods must be noted in your herd health records.

Vet Visits: Treatments administered by a vet must be noted in your herd health records. All vet invoices must clearly indicate all medications that were administered and the animal's identification/name/number.

Please Note: This is a listing of generic materials. Brand name products must be reviewed and allowed by PCO prior to use. Call PCO if you are unsure about the status of any treatment.

Generic Name	Restrictions on Use	Withhold/Withdrawal
Aspirin	Anti-inflammatory. Pain relief.	None.
Atropine	Must be used only under the direction of a veterinarian.	Milk: 12 days Meat: 56 days
Butorphanol (<i>example: Torbugesic</i>)	Anesthetic. Must be used under the direction of a veterinarian.	Milk: 8 days Meat: 42 days
Chlorhexidine	Allowed for surgical procedures conducted by a veterinarian. Allowed for use as a teat dip when alternative germicidal agents and/or physical barriers have lost their effectiveness. <i>Not allowed for intra-mammary use to kill quarters.</i>	None.
Epinephrine/ Adrenaline	Emergency treatment for anaphylactic shock.	None.
Flunixin (<i>examples: Banamine, Vedagesic, Prevail, Flunixinamine, Flunazine</i>)	Anti-inflammatory.	Milk: 72 hours Meat: 8 days
Furosemide (<i>example: Salix</i>)	Diuretic. Must be used only under the direction of a veterinarian.	Milk: 4 days Meat: 4 days

Generic Name	Restrictions on Use	Withhold/Withdrawal
Homeopathic Remedies	Allowed.	None.
Ivermectin <i>(examples: Ibamectin, Ivermx Pour-On)</i>	Parasiticide. Prohibited in slaughter stock. Allowed in emergency treatment for dairy and breeder stock when preventive management does not prevent infestation.	Milk: 90 days milk. Meat: use not allowed. In breeder stock, treatment cannot occur during the last third of gestation if the progeny will be sold as organic. Not to be used during the lactation period for breeding stock.
Lidocaine	Local anesthetic. <i>Frequently used at dehorning to minimize discomfort.</i>	Milk: 7 days Meat: 90 days
Oxytocin	Use restricted to post-parturition therapeutic applications. <i>Hormone used to aid cleaning after freshening. Not allowed for routine milk let-down.</i>	Since this is a hormone, your milk company may place further restrictions on this material.
Poloxalene	Emergency bloat treatment only.	None.
Procaine	Local anesthetic.	Milk: 7 days Meat: 90 days
Tolazoline	Must be used only under the direction of a veterinarian to reverse the effects of sedation and analgesia caused by Xylazine.	Milk: 4 days Meat: 8 days
Vaccines/Biologics	Allowed.	None.
Xylazine	Sedative. Must be used only under the direction of a veterinarian.	Milk: 4 days Meat: 8 days

*****Prohibited*****

Cows leaving the herd after prohibited treatment must be clearly noted in herd records. Organic regulations prohibit withholding medical treatments from organic animals to preserve its organic status. Appropriate medications must be used to restore an animal to health when methods acceptable to organic production fail (205.238(c)(7)).

Antibiotics <i>(examples: Micotil, Tetracycline, Agrimycin)</i>	Prohibited. Treatment must not be withheld if it is required to restore an animal to health.
Colloidal Silver & Ionic Silver	Specifically prohibited by FDA & PMO for all dairies (conventional/organic).
Dehorning Paste	Prohibited. Current PCO policy allows “disbudding” (burning the area around horn buds with an electric/propane iron) before three months of age. Gouging, cutting, burning, or any other procedure to dehorn after 3 months must be done under veterinary care with an allowed anesthesia, such as lidocaine.
Milk Replacer	Prohibited. Calves must be raised on organic milk. Certified organic milk replacer would be allowed if available.