What is the Veterinary-Client-Patient Relationship (VCPR)?
As defined in the AVMA’s Principles of Veterinary Medical Ethics:

- The veterinarian has assumed the responsibility for making clinical judgments regarding the health of the patient, and the client has agreed to follow the veterinarian’s instructions.
- The veterinarian has sufficient knowledge of the patient to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the patient. This means that the veterinarian is personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the patient by virtue of a timely examination of the patient by the veterinarian or medically appropriate and timely visits by the veterinarian to the operation where the patient is managed.
- The veterinarian is readily available for follow-up evaluation or has arranged for veterinary emergency coverage and continuing care and treatment.
- The veterinarian provides oversight of treatment, compliance, and outcome.
- Patient records are maintained.
- VFD order forms must be kept for a minimum of 2 years by the client AND the veterinarian).

Obtaining a VFD feed
- Producer contacts a licensed veterinarian; veterinarian properly fills out the VFD form and either sends it directly to the feed supplier OR provides producer with two copies (one for producer, one for feed supplier).
- Clients are prohibited from using any VFD feed beyond the scope of the instructions of the veterinarian.
- VFD feed(s) and VFD drug(s) cannot be shared with other operations.

What is a Veterinary Feed Directive Order (VFD)?
- A written document issued by a licensed veterinarian (in the context of a valid Veterinary-Client-Patient Relationship) that authorizes the use of a VFD drug, or a combination of VFD drugs, on or in an animal feed.
- It is similar to a “prescription,” but it requires specific information and language in order to be compliant.

What is a “VFD drug”? A drug deemed “medically important” for humans that is intended for use on or in animal feed and is used under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian.

What are the changes?
- Certain drugs have recently moved from over-the-counter (OTC) status to VFD status (those administered in feed) or prescription status (those administered in drinking water).
- VFD orders are now required for use of VFD drugs on or in medicated feeds, thereby requiring veterinary oversight.
- “Medically important” antibiotics are only allowed for FDA-approved uses (e.g., no longer allowed for growth promotion).
- NO EXTRA-LABEL use of VFD drugs in feed is allowed.

What is the reason for these rule changes?
Growing concern over general antibiotic resistance of pathogens prompted these rule changes as part of an effort to promote judicious use of medically important antibiotics in food-production animals.
Drugs recently moved from OTC to VFD status

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antibiotic Class</th>
<th>Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aminoglycosides</td>
<td>Apramycin, Hygromycin B, Neomycin, Streptomycin, Gentamicin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diaminopyrimidines</td>
<td>Ormetoprim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lincosamides</td>
<td>Lincomycin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Macrolides</td>
<td>Erythromycin, Oleandomycin, Tylosin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penicillins</td>
<td>Penicillin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Streptogramins</td>
<td>Virginiamycin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sulfas</td>
<td>Sulfadimethoxine, Sulfamerazine, Sulfamethazine, Sulfquinocinoxaline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tetracyclines</td>
<td>Chlortetracycline, Oxytetracycline</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Drugs that ALREADY required a VFD
- Avilamycin
- Florfenicol
- Tilmicosin

Drugs that do NOT require a VFD because they are not “medically important” or are not antimicrobials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antibiotic Class</th>
<th>Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ionophores</td>
<td>Monensin, Lasalocid, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bacitracin</td>
<td>BMD, bacitracin zinc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bambermycins</td>
<td>Flavomycin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbadox</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthelmintics</td>
<td>Coumaphos, Fenbendazole, Ivermectin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beta-agonists</td>
<td>Ractopamine, Zilpaterol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coccidiostats</td>
<td>Clopidol, Decoquinate, Diclazuril</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Veterinary Feed Directive

Veterinarian: ___________________________ Client: ___________________________
Address: ___________________________________________ Address: ___________________________

Phone: ___________________________ Phone: ___________________________
Fax or email (optional): ___________________________ Fax or email (optional): ___________________________

Drug(s): ___________________________ Drug Level: ___________________________ g/ton Duration of Use: ___________________________

- No substitutions allowed

Species and production class: ___________________________ No refills/ reorder authorized
Indications for use: ___________________________
Caution (if any): ___________________________

USE OF FEED CONTAINING THIS VETERINARY FEED DIRECTIVE (VFD) DRUG IN A MANNER OTHER THAN AS DIRECTED ON THE LABELING (EXTRALABEL USE) IS NOT PERMITTED

Approximate number of animals: ___________________________

Premises: ___________________________
Other identification (e.g., age, weight, [passion]): ___________________________

Special instructions (if any): ___________________________

Affirmation of intent (for combination VFD drugs) [mark one statement] *
- This VFD only authorizes the use of the VFD drug(s) cited in this order and is not intended to authorize the use of such drug(s) in combination with any other animal drugs.
- This VFD authorizes the use of the VFD drug(s) cited in this order in the following FDA-approved, conditionally approved, or indexed combination(s) in medicated feed that contains the VFD drug(s) as a component:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drugs(s)</th>
<th>Drug Level(s) and Any Special Instructions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

- This VFD authorizes the use of the VFD drug(s) cited in this order in any FDA-approved, conditionally approved, or indexed combination(s) in medicated feed that contains the VFD drug(s) as a component.

Withdrawal time (if any): This VFD must be withdrawn ___ days prior to slaughter

VFD date of issuance (month/day/year): ___________________________ VFD expiration date (month/day/year): ___________________________

Veterinarian’s signature: ___________________________

AVMA

*As specified in the approval cannot exceed 9 months after issuance

All parties must retain a copy of this VFD for 2 years after the date of issuance.