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## **POLICY ON THE USE OF BANNED VETERINARY DRUGS AND PHARMACEUTICALS IN FOOD-PRODUCING ANIMALS**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The use of banned veterinary drugs and pharmaceuticals in food-producing animals poses a great danger by generating residues that can be transferred to humans therefore leading to health hazards. There are many factors influencing the occurrence of residues in animal products such as drug's properties and pharmacokinetic characteristics, physicochemical or biological processes of animals and their products.

The most likely reason for drug residue might be due to improper drug usage and failure to keep the withdrawal period.

### **DIRECTIVE**

The use of veterinary drugs and pharmaceuticals in food-producing animals has the potential to generate residues in animal-derived products such as meat, milk, egg and honey which poses a health hazard to the consumer.

The major public health significances of drug residue are the development of antimicrobial drug resistance, hypersensitivity reaction, carcinogenicity, mutagenicity, teratogenicity, and disruption of intestinal normal flora.

**For this, there must be no importation, manufacture, distribution, sale, or use of banned veterinary drugs or pharmaceuticals in Nigeria.**

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