

**RESOLUTION #6—2022**  
**Regular Annual Session**

Submitted by  
Board of Directors

**NEW POLICY ON USE OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS IN VETERINARY MEDICINE**

**RESOLVED** that the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) House of Delegates adopt the new policy on Use of Prescription Drugs in Veterinary Medicine as noted in [Attachment 1](#), which will supersede the current policies on [Guidelines for Veterinary Prescription Drugs](#), [Writing Veterinary Prescriptions](#), and [Client Requests for Prescriptions](#) .

**Statement about the Resolution**

The Council on Biologic and Therapeutic Agents (COBTA) reviewed the policy on Guidelines for Veterinary Prescription Drugs. Suggested revisions are to:

- Update the policy title to reflect the use of both veterinary and human labelled drugs in veterinary medicine;
- Incorporate the policies on Writing Veterinary Prescriptions and Client Requests for Prescriptions;
- Emphasize that decisions regarding prescription drug use should be made within the context of a veterinarian-client-patient relationship (VCPR);
- Remove compounding language that is addressed in the compounding policy;
- Remove language indicating that extralabel use is only warranted when the health of an animal is threatened, or when death may result. The Animal Medicinal Drug Use Clarification Act (AMDUCA) does not limit Extra-Label Drug Use (ELDU) to only circumstances where animal health is threatened or death may result, but includes situations where treatment is indicated and no product is available that can be used according to the label;
- Streamline language regarding ELDU, referencing requirements of 21 CFR Part 530 and removing lists of conditions required for ELDU in nonfood animal and food animal patients and drugs prohibited for ELDU in food animals;
- Adjust language under Labeling and Record Keeping, as well as Documentation required for Records (R), Written and Electronic Prescriptions (P), and Information provided to Clients (I) to address concerns identified during the HOD Summer 2021 meeting that this language recommended more requirements pertaining to label content than may be present at the state level; and
- For clarity.

**Financial Impact: None**

	<b>Board of Directors</b>	<b>House Advisory Committee</b>	<b>Reference Committee #5</b>	<b>House of Delegates</b>
<b>Recommend Approval</b>	X	X	X (amended as noted below*)	X (amended as noted below*)
<b>Recommend Disapproval</b>				
<b>Recommend Referral to...</b>				
<b>No Recommendation</b>				
<b>Recommend Postpone Indefinitely</b>				

(use this space for additional narrative, if needed)

**\*New Policy on Use of Prescription Drugs in Veterinary Medicine**

- Veterinary prescription drugs should be dispensed only in quantities required for the treatment, control, or prevention of disease(s) or condition(s) of the animal(s) for which the drugs are dispensed.

**Documentation required for Records (R) Written and Electronic Prescriptions (P), and Information provided to Clients (I)**

- Dosage and duration (RPI)
- Expiration date if applicable (RPI)