

# Executive Board Recommendation to Disapprove Resolution 3—2009

At the recommendation of the House of Delegates, the Executive Board convened a multi-disciplinary Antimicrobial Use Task Force (AUTF) charged to clarify the veterinarian's role and level of involvement in all uses of antimicrobials through a science-based evaluation. Any recommendation was to consider the practicality of, and identify barriers to, implementation. Where it was determined that a veterinarian needs to be involved, the level of involvement was to be characterized. Furthermore, all AVMA policies that were affected were to be considered and, where necessary, revised.

The Executive Board received the Discussions of the Antimicrobial Use Task Force and the Executive Summary and transmitted the documents to the HOD. Task force deliberations identified that the issues surrounding antimicrobial use in animals are multi-faceted and complex. After careful deliberation, the Task Force universally agreed to the following statement:

"Veterinarians should be involved in the decision-making process for the use of antimicrobials regardless of the distribution channel through which the antimicrobial was obtained."

The Executive Board recommends Disapproval of Res-

olution 3—2009 because the Task Force report describes that no clear consensus has been reached on the subject of the Resolution's amendment. Thus, the Executive Board cannot support such an amendment.

The Executive Board further recommends Approval of Resolution 2—2010, the Task Force's universally supported statement, as policy. The proposed policy extends beyond existing policy by compelling veterinary involvement in the decision-making process for over-the-counter therapeutic products as well as products labeled for improved rate of gain or feed efficiency.

The Executive Board is cognizant of regulatory, Congressional, and other initiatives underway that would further restrict veterinarians' use of antimicrobials. In the absence of AVMA involvement, regulations or legislation could reduce essential drug availability. Consequently, the Executive Board recommends Approval of Resolution 3—2010 that puts AVMA at the forefront of important discussions, especially pertaining to antimicrobial use.

Consideration of the two 2010 resolutions from the Executive Board requires a two-thirds vote of the HOD to waive the rules for prior notice because these new resolutions are filed after the 60 day deadline for submission.