

In-feed Antimicrobials and Working with Commercial Feed Mills



FAAST
FARMED ANIMAL ANTIMICROBIAL
STEWARDSHIP

Animal Owner FAASTsheet 7 of 11

What Is Changing and When?

What?

1. You will need a prescription to purchase any product, including medicated feed, containing a medically important antimicrobial (**MIA**).
 - a. MIAs are specific drugs (such as Penicillin) that are preferred options for use in human medicine, with few alternatives.
See Animal Owner FAASTsheet #3
 - b. How do you get prescriptions? **See Animal Owner FAASTsheet #7**
2. Growth promotion claims on drug products containing MIAs for use in food animals are being removed. Use of these products for growth promotion or feed efficiency will no longer be allowed, but most products can still be prescribed by your veterinarian for prevention or treatment of disease, if needed.

When? December 1, 2018





Why Is This Changing?

To reduce the development of antimicrobial resistance, it is important to avoid misuse or unnecessary use of MIAs. Therefore:

- Health Canada is moving all MIAs to the prescription drug list so that veterinarians can better oversee their use.
See Animal Owner FAASTsheet #6
- Drug manufacturers agreed to remove growth promotion claims from their products, as use for growth promotion is not necessary to keep animals healthy and productive.

How Does This Affect Availability of Medicated Feeds from Feed Mills?

As of December 1st, 2018 commercial feed mills will:

- No longer be able to sell any mixed feeds (complete feeds, supplements, macro premixes, micro premixes) containing MIAs to producers without a prescription.
- Be able to floor-stock medicated mixed feeds that are prepared according to the [Compendium of Medicating Ingredient Brochures \(CMIB\)](#). This will help feed mills to quickly provide standard medicated feeds when a prescription is provided.
 - Medicated feed not listed in the CMIB (i.e. off-label) will be made to order by the mill once you provide a prescription from your veterinarian, which may have an effect on how quickly animal owners can obtain medicated feed.

What Do These Changes Mean for Animal Owners?

You **must have a prescription** from your veterinarian to purchase medicated feeds containing MIAs.

- Commercial feed mills can only sell MIAs if the drug is first mixed in feed **AND** you present a prescription for the feed written by your veterinarian

DIN drug premixes (i.e. unmixed in-feed medications for mixing on-farm) will **ONLY** be available through a veterinarian or a pharmacist, with a prescription.

What Else Do You Need to Know?

If you do not routinely work with a veterinarian, you will need to establish a Veterinarian-Client-Patient-Relationship (**VCPR**) so your veterinarian can prescribe drugs for your animals when needed.

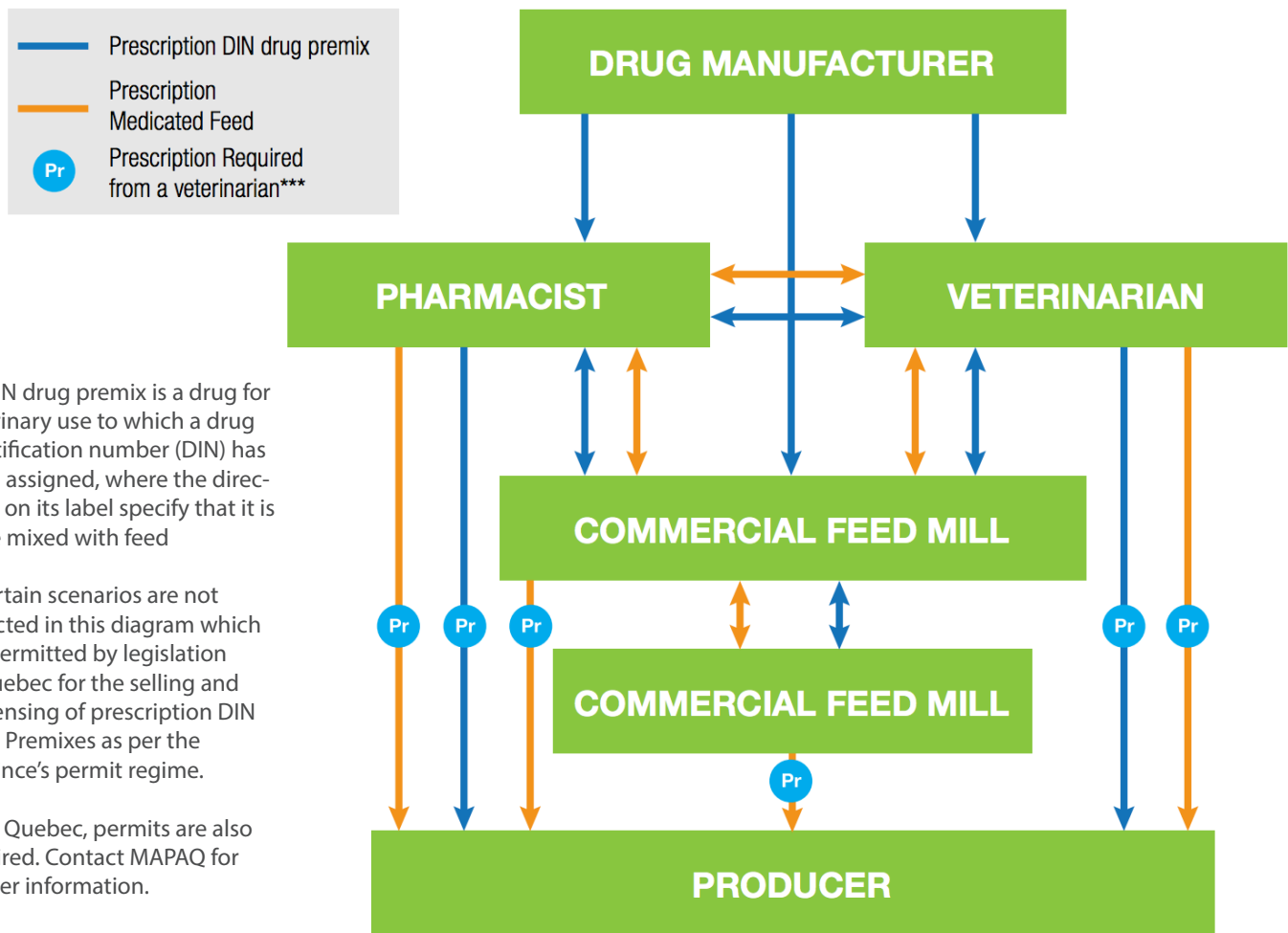
See Animal Owner FAASTsheet #5.

You can no longer use MIAs to promote growth or feed efficiency. MIAs may only be used for treatment, prevention and control of illness. **See Animal Owner FAASTsheet #8.**



How do you access MIAs and prescription medicated feed? See **Figure 1** below for a flow chart by the Animal Nutrition Association of Canada:

This flow chart illustrates the flow, as per federal and provincial laws and regulations, of prescription DIN drug premixes and prescription medicated feed in Canada**.



*A DIN drug premix is a drug for veterinary use to which a drug identification number (DIN) has been assigned, where the directions on its label specify that it is to be mixed with feed

**Certain scenarios are not depicted in this diagram which are permitted by legislation in Quebec for the selling and dispensing of prescription DIN Drug Premixes as per the province's permit regime.

***In Quebec, permits are also required. Contact MAPAQ for further information.

Figure 1. Flow chart illustrating the flow, as per federal and provincial laws and regulations, of prescription DIN drug premixes and prescription medicated feed in Canada. Source: [ANAC, 2018](#)

What Should You Do Right Now?



If you don't already have one, establish a VCPR (working relationship) with a veterinarian in your area to prepare for December 1st, 2018.

Talk to your veterinarian about the in-feed and in-water antimicrobials you use for your animals on a regular basis, when and how often they are used, and ways your veterinarian can help make sure you can access these products in a timely way when they're needed.

Having your veterinarian work closely with your local feed mill and animal nutritionist to help make the process of prescribing and dispensing in-feed antimicrobials as smooth as possible.

For More Information

[Farmed Animal Antimicrobial Stewardship \(FAAST\)](#)

[Health Canada: Responsible Use of Medically Important Antimicrobials in Animals](#)

[Canadian Veterinary Medical Association: Managing Inventory During the OTC to PR Switch Transition](#)



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