



August 4, 2004

Dr. Lester M. Crawford
Acting Commissioner
Food and Drug Administration
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Dr. Crawford,

My name is Carl Heeder and I am a practicing turkey field veterinarian for Jennie-O Turkey Store. I am sure you have been receiving a great deal of correspondence regarding the Fluoroquinolone issue. I actually wonder if you would ever be able to read all the mail that is addressed to you. Regardless I won't bother reiterating the same arguments that I'm sure you have heard before. Instead, I have a simple request that you follow your own words from your August 2nd speech at the National Press Club. You stated, at least as I understood it, that the FDA's decision process is based on three principles - science, reason, and diligence. When it comes to the Fluoroquinolone issue the decision has been focused on politics, special interests, and suspicion. The reality is if I were to loose this drug as a treatment option I would have birds suffering and dying that I would have otherwise been able to help. I ask that you allow a scientific panel to review the information and make an informed decision based on science, reason, and diligence.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Heeder", written over a white background.

Carl Heeder, DVM
Staff Veterinarian
Jennie-O Turkey Store

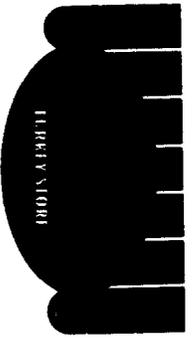
cc: Dockets Management Branch, ref. # 00N-1571

Jennie-O Turkey Store

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Return Service Requested

Food and Drug Administration
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