

Jane E. Henney, M.D.  
Commissioner  
U. S. Food and Drug Administration  
5600 Fishers Lane  
Rockville MD 20857-0001

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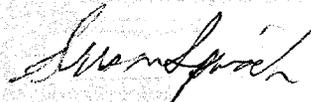
RE: Start A National Antibiotic-Use Reporting System Now

Dear Ms Henney,

I am writing to urge you to start a national antibiotic-use reporting system now, to determine the quantity of antibiotics used in US agriculture. And to urge the next administration to continue it. The overuse of antibiotics in agriculture is contributing to the emergence of untreatable diseases in people. Reliable data on antibiotic use in agriculture is needed for an effective national strategy to reduce antibiotic use are unavailable.

Please make this a top priority. We are endangering the health of future generations by creating resistance to known antibiotics in micro-organisms with their overuse. The first step in ending this is to have accurate information about how much and many are being used. Government-guaranteed information on U.S. antibiotic use is necessary for creating effective solutions for reducing antibiotic use. The Food and Drug Administration has recognized the need for collecting such information, but it has not taken steps to establish the needed system. The FDA should move now to establish a system for collecting basic data on agricultural antibiotic use in the United States. The information should be collected for both human and agricultural use and should include the class, indication, dosage, and treatment period.

Respectfully,



Susan Spivack

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