

**Office of Surveillance & Compliance**  
**FDA Center for Veterinary Medicine**

**DRAFT GUIDANCE FOR INDUSTRY (GFI) #256**  
**COMPOUNDING ANIMAL DRUGS FROM BULK**  
**DRUG SUBSTANCES**



# Welcome

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# Challenges That Veterinarians Face



# Balance

- Unproven safety, effectiveness, and quality of animal drugs compounded from bulk drug substances
- The need for those drugs when no FDA-approved or indexed drug can be used to treat the animal



# Legally Marketed New Animal Drugs

- FDA-approved
- Conditionally approved
- Listed on the *Index of Legally Marketed Unapproved Drugs for Minor Species*  
<https://www.fda.gov/animal-veterinary/minor-use/minor-species/index-legally-marketed-unapproved-new-animal-drugs-minor-species>

# New Animal Drug Approvals

- Pre-approval: FDA reviews data demonstrating safety, efficacy, manufacturing quality, and labeling adequacy.
- Post-approval: FDA monitors adverse events, product defects, advertising, and changes in manufacturing and labeling.

# Compounding from Approved Drugs

- The federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act permits veterinarians to use approved animal or human drugs in an extralabel manner.
- Compounding an animal drug using finished, approved drugs as the source of the active ingredient can be a legal extralabel use (ELU) if ELU regulations are followed (21 CFR Part 530).

# Compounding from Bulk Drug Substances

- The federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act does not authorize compounding animal drugs from bulk drug substances.
- Compounding an animal drug from bulk drug substances creates a product that requires FDA approval or index listing under the federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act.



# Compounding from Bulk Drug Substances



continued

- Animal drugs compounded from bulk drug substances are **not** FDA-approved brand-name (i.e., pioneer) drugs (even if they contain the same bulk drug substance as an approved animal drug).
- Animal drugs compounded from bulk drug substances are **not** FDA-approved generic drugs (even if they contain the same bulk drug substance as an approved animal drug).

# Compounding from Bulk Drug Substances



continued

- Drugs compounded from bulk drug substances have not been evaluated by FDA.
- Drugs compounded from bulk drug substances do not have the same assurances of safety, efficacy, manufacturing quality, and labeling adequacy as FDA-approved drugs.
- Drugs compounded from bulk drug substances are not routinely monitored by FDA for adverse events, product defects, advertising, and changes in manufacturing and labeling.

# Regulatory Priorities

FDA is most concerned with drugs compounded from bulk drug substances that

- Present human or animal safety concerns
- Are for use in food-producing animals
- Are copies of approved, conditionally approved, or indexed marketed animal drugs
- Are compounded without a patient-specific prescription and sold to veterinarians as “office stock”

# Draft GFI #256

- **Does not** make the marketing and use of drugs compounded from bulk drug substances legal
- Describes when FDA **does not intend** to take action against animal drugs compounded from bulk drug substances

# Draft GFI #256

continued



Under Draft GFI #256:

- Only veterinarians and pharmacists can compound from bulk drug substances
- Drugs compounded from bulk drug substances should only be prescribed and dispensed when:
  - A veterinarian is acting within a valid veterinarian-client-patient relationship **and**
  - There is no medically appropriate FDA-approved drug or option for lawful extralabel use of an FDA-approved drug.
- Veterinarians and pharmacists who compound from bulk drug substances should report adverse events and product defects to FDA by following instructions for Form FDA 1932a at [www.fda.gov/reportanimalAE](http://www.fda.gov/reportanimalAE)

# Categories of Compounding from Bulk Drug Substances

- Patient-specific prescriptions for nonfood-producing animals
- Office stock for nonfood-producing animals
- Antidotes for food-producing animals

# Patient-specific Prescriptions for Nonfood-producing Animals

FDA does not intend to take action against drugs compounded from bulk drug substances for **nonfood-producing animals with patient-specific prescriptions** when the compounded drug

1. Is not a copy of a marketed, FDA-approved human or animal drug; and
2. Cannot be made using an approved drug as the source of the active ingredient; and

# Patient-specific Prescriptions

continued

FDA does not intend to take action against drugs compounded from bulk drug substances for **nonfood-producing animals with patient-specific prescriptions** when the compounded drug

3. Is dispensed to the patient's owner or caretaker or the prescribing veterinarian, and not to a distributor, retailer, or other third party; and
4. Is compounded according to the standards in the United States Pharmacopeia and National Formulary (USP-NF), at a minimum



# Compounding Office Stock for Nonfood-producing Animals

FDA does not intend to take action against drugs compounded from bulk drug substances for **nonfood-producing animals as office stock** when the drug

1. Is compounded from a bulk drug substance on FDA's "List of Bulk Drug Substances for Compounding Office Stock Drugs for Use in Nonfood-Producing Animals or Antidotes for Food-Producing Animals"; and

# Office Stock

continued

FDA does not intend to take action against drugs compounded from bulk drug substances for **nonfood-producing animals as office stock** when the drug

2. Is not dispensed or transferred to a third party (except for a veterinarian dispensing to an animal's owner); and
3. Is compounded according to the standards in the United States Pharmacopeia and National Formulary (USP-NF), at a minimum

# Antidotes for Food-producing Animals

FDA does not intend to take action against drugs compounded from bulk drug substances for **food-producing animals only** when

1. The drug is an antidote; and
2. The drug is compounded from a bulk drug substance on FDA's "List of Bulk Drug Substances for Compounding Office Stock Drugs for Use in Nonfood-Producing Animals or Antidotes for Food-Producing Animals"; and

# Antidotes for Food-producing Animals



continued

FDA does not intend to take action against drugs compounded from bulk drug substances for **food-producing animals** only when

3. The veterinarian either
  - Establishes and documents a scientifically based withdrawal, withholding, or discard time(s) for meat, milk, eggs, and any food that may be derived from the treated animal(s); or
  - Ensures the animal does not enter the food supply

# Requests for Nominations to the List of Bulk Drug Substances

- The public may submit nominations for bulk drug substances to be included on the office stock/antidotes bulk list.
- Nominations may be submitted electronically or in writing.
- Nominations should include all requested information or FDA may be unable to determine if the bulk drug substance meets the criteria for inclusion on the list.
- For a complete list of requested information and directions on how to submit, see the appendix in Draft GFI #256 or the *Federal Register* notice inviting nominations.

# Key Points for Veterinarians

- Compounded drugs are not FDA-approved, and FDA has not evaluated their safety and efficacy.
- Veterinarians will be able to compound or prescribe drugs compounded from bulk drug substances, under circumstances described in Draft GFI #256, if finalized, when no legal (FDA-approved or indexed) treatment options exist that would be appropriate to treat a patient.

# Key Points for Veterinarians

## continued

- We are interested in your input and suggestions. Please submit comments on the draft guidance by 2/18/2020. Nominations for office stock and antidotes may be submitted at any time.
- Reminder: Draft GFI #256 is draft guidance; its provisions only take effect if finalized.

# Key Points for Pharmacists

- Pharmacists will be able to compound drugs from bulk drug substances when prescribed by a veterinarian under circumstances described in Draft GFI #256, if finalized.
- If there is an approved product with the same active moiety, compounders should only use a bulk drug substance if the approved drug cannot be used as the source of active ingredient.
- We will prioritize action against compounded copies of approved drugs, except in cases where a prescribing veterinarian has documented that there is a clinical difference for a specific patient.



# Key Points for Pharmacists

continued

- GFI #256 limits the BDS that can be used for office stock compounding to the bulk drug substances on the Bulk Drug Substances List.
- We will prioritize action against drugs compounded from bulk drug substances for food-producing animals, except for antidotes compounded from bulk drug substances on the Bulk Drug Substances List.
- We are interested in your input and suggestions. Please submit comments by 2/18/2020.
- Reminder: Draft GFI #256 is draft guidance; its provisions only take effect if finalized.

# Key Points for the Pharmaceutical Industry

- FDA is prioritizing action against compounding copies of approved or indexed products.
- GFI #256 limits compounding copies of FDA-approved or indexed drugs to situations where the veterinarian documents a clinical difference for a specific patient.

# Key Points for the Pharmaceutical Industry

## continued

- Draft GFI #256, if finalized, expects the compounder will consider using an FDA-approved drug(s) as the source of the active ingredient and will document the reason they cannot be used when compounding from BDS.
- We are interested in your input and suggestions. Please submit comments by 2/18/2020.
- Reminder: Draft GFI #256 is draft guidance; its provisions only take effect if finalized.

# Thank you!

Questions?

[AskCVM@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:AskCVM@fda.hhs.gov)



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