

# PEAK VETERINARY NEWS

January 2020



**Happy New Year from all at Peak!**



## **Control and Management of Bovine Respiratory Disease**

Control of BVD is a combination of reduction of exposure to pathogens and increased resistance to pathogens.

Promoting a good immunity through adequate colostrum intake (6 pints / 3 litres in the first 6 hours) as calves will improve a calf's defence mechanisms against respiratory infections and good feed intake whilst growing will also aid this. Avoiding stress improves an animal's immune defences and also reduces viral shedding.

### Buildings / Housing

It is essential to provide a clean, dry bed in a well ventilated, draught free environment. Effective ventilation helps to reduce the level of infectious agents circulating in the sheds. In buildings with poor ventilation the natural 'stack effect' process cannot occur.

The Stack Effect: heat from calves warms the air, which then rises and exits through outlets in the roof. This creates negative pressure within the building which draws fresh air back in through the inlets.

The ventilation within your sheds can be assessed by using smoke cartilages. Please phone us for more details.

### Managing Calf Groups

It has been reported that group size is directly related to incidence of BRD and groups of 6-10 animals are recommended. Ideally there should be no more than 30 calves sharing the same air space. Calves should be grouped according to age but it is also useful to keep in mind any history of respiratory disease when grouping.

### Vaccination

Vaccination works by increasing the calves' immunity and reducing the challenge through a reduction in virus shedding. Rapid protection is important with some vaccines being possible to use from 9 days old. All calves sharing an air space should be vaccinated.

### Parasites

In older cattle, lungworm shouldn't be forgotten as a cause of respiratory disease. It is only relevant for older cattle that are out at grass. Prevention of infection is through vaccination or anthelmintic treatment (wormer).

## **Treating an Outbreak of BRD**

The most important aspect of treatment is speed. The quicker treatment is started, the quicker there should be a return to health and thus a reduction in long term effects (e.g. permanent damage to lung tissue). In most cases antibiotics and anti-inflammatories are used but this is dependent on the suspected cause. Anti-inflammatories are essential as the reduction in inflammation not only improves clinical signs but also antibiotic action within the lungs.

The most effective way to reduce the impact of BRD on your farm is through control and management in order to reduce the number of calves requiring treatment and in turn improving production.

## Synulox LC Tubes

There has been an issue on the manufacturing side of Synulox tubes. Due to this, there has been a recall of the following batch numbers:

Presentation	Batch Number	Expiry date
Synulox LC x 12 syringes	91939702	31/01/2021
Synulox LC x 24 syringes	81950600	30/04/2020
Synulox LC x 24 syringes	81958301	30/04/2020
Synulox LC x 24 syringes	81962601	31/05/2020
Synulox LC x 24 syringes	81966700	30/06/2020
Synulox LC x 24 syringes	81968102	30/06/2020
Synulox LC x 24 syringes	81968300	30/06/2020
Synulox LC x 24 syringes	91927402	30/11/2020
Synulox LC x 24 syringes	91938601	31/01/2021
Synulox LC x 24 syringes	91938700	31/01/2021
Synulox LC x 24 syringes	91954001	31/03/2021

If you have any stock on farm of these tubes, please do not use them and bring them back to the practice.

We will either credit you back or replace the stock when Synulox is back on general sale again.

Thank you for your cooperation.



## Ceporex

This is a first generation cephalosporin that went off the veterinary market several years ago. We are happy to announce its return to our shelves!

It is the same class of antibiotic, and can be used similarly to cefenil, naxxcel and excenel. Similarly to these antibiotics, it also has a 0 day milk withhold.

As a first generation, the red tractor are happy for it to be used as a first line medication and are also happy for it to be kept on farm.



We would like to thank you for your continued support throughout 2019

As always, any issues you would like to discuss, please do not hesitate to contact us,

*Warm Regards:*  
*Andrew, Hollie and Emily*

Tel: 01629 – 582844