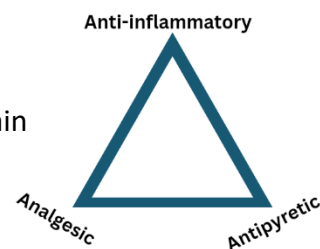


So, you have assessed that your calf or cow might be experiencing pain and requires an anti-inflammatory. You go to the cupboard and there is an endless amount of medicine bottles. Which one do you pick? Every medicine has pros and cons and it's easy to continuously reach for your favourite, despite there possibly being a better choice. Let's help you by breaking down the pros and cons of the different NSAID (non-steroidal anti-inflammatory) options for pain relief so you can pick the one that best fits the situation. Like always, please contact your herd health veterinarian if you have any questions.

| | <i>Pros</i> | <i>Cons</i> |
|---|--|---|
| Metacam (Metacam) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 48 hours of effect ✓ Under the skin injection <p>On label pain associated with calf disbudding/dehorning and diarrhea, mastitis, and after surgery.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> × 20 day meat withdrawal |
| Oral Meloxicam | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 56 hours of effect <p>Great for pain associated with disbudding, dehorning, or castrations.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> × Not on label for lactating animals × 35 day meat withdrawal |
| Banamine (Flunazine) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ ~24 hours of effect <p>Great antitoxin effect for toxic mastitis or other toxin causing diseases</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> × Intravenous use in cattle only |
| Anafen (Ketoprofen) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Injectable in the muscle or vein ✓ No milk withdrawal ✓ 24 hour meat withdrawal | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> × <u>Less</u> than 24 hours of effect |
| ASA Bolus (Acetylsalicylic Acid) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 1-3 boluses orally ✓ No meat or milk withdrawal | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> × Needs to repeat up to 3 times a day. × Slow absorption and rapid eliminations mean shorter and less reliable effect. |

NSAIDs have three different beneficial effects, so they are for more than just pain.

1. Analgesic: pain relief
2. Antipyretic: reducing fever
3. Anti-inflammatory: reducing inflammation causing swelling, redness, and pain



In addition to the NSAIDs listed above, steroids are also an anti-inflammatory option. The most used steroid is Dexamethasone. This is a great option for nerve inflammation and pain and is a great choice for down cows and pinch nerves during calving. Please contact your herd veterinarian before using to get the correct dosing for the situation and withdrawals.

Choosing the right product for situation and using it correctly really reduces a cow's pain. A more comfortable animal is going to heal easier, eat more, stand more, and ultimately be a happier animal. If you have any questions about the medicines listed above please reach out to a veterinarian and we can help you choose the right product, go over dosage, or make treatment protocols for certain diseases to include pain management.

Upcoming Stat Holidays

The clinic will be closed Labour Day Weekend, Sat Aug 31st to Mon Sept 2nd, re-opening Tues Sept 3rd. As always, veterinarians will be available 24-7 for emergency service. The Saturday fee schedule will remain unchanged from non-stat weekends.

Fly Control

Have you heard the buzz? Large animal technicians are now offering fly prevention in combination with dehorning services. Ask your large animal tech for more information!

Note from Karen

Thanks to all the wonderful clients of Heartland Vet Services, you know who you are!! I appreciate those of you that came out to my retirement party even though you should have been in the field. I am going to miss seeing you in the clinic and hope to see you when I am out and about.....Dairy Day???