



Responsible use of veterinary products to provide safer food.

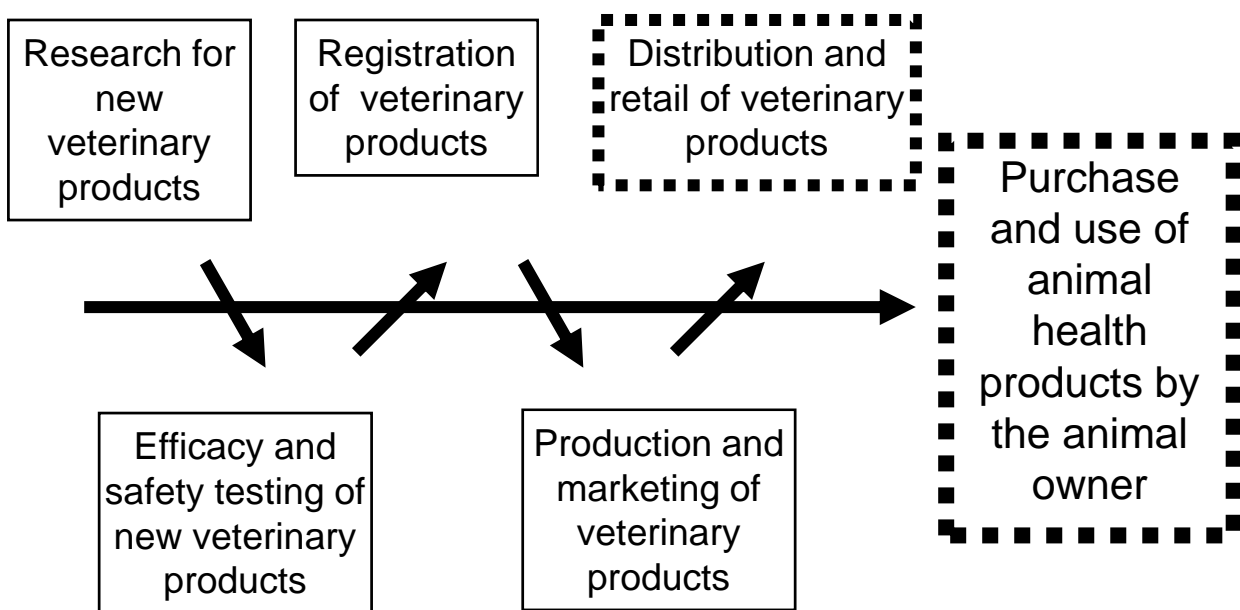
1. The supply chain of veterinary products.
2. Limiting factors in the responsible use of veterinary products.
3. The need for training in primary animal health care

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1. The supply chain of veterinary products.



Throughout the development and production chain of veterinary products there are systems and regulations ensuring the efficacy and safety of the product.

At the distribution and end user level there are very limited measures to ensure compliance of use according to registered label indications of over the counter veterinary products.

2. Limiting factors in the responsible use of veterinary products.

- The level of animal health knowledge of distributors (retailers) of animal health products.
- Regulation of distributors of veterinary products.
- Factors that limit compliance when veterinary products are used by the end user (animal owner)
 - Language.
 - Literacy.
 - Basic knowledge of animal health
 - Skills in applying animal health remedies.
 - Storing of animal health remedies.
 - Withholding period after use.

3. The need for training in primary animal health care

- The regulation throughout the whole veterinary product registration and production chain are worthless without the improvement of the eventual use of the veterinary products.
- Veterinary products can only be used to enhance food production and safety if the end user (animal owner) have a basic understanding of the correct use of the product.
 - Understanding of the disease process
 - Options in preventing diseases
 - Options in treatment of diseases
 - Skills in using animal health remedies for the prevention or treatment of diseases
 - Food safety
- All of this must be done in the context of the different languages, culture and literacy levels of the animal owner in Africa.

THE CHALLENGE FOR IMPROVED FOOD PRODUCTION AND SAFETY LIES IN THE TRAINING OF THE END USER OF VETERINARY PRODUCTS.