



**PRESS RELEASE**



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## **Statement OF NPPC Chief Veterinarian Dr. Liz Wagstrom On WHO Call For Ban On Prevention Uses Of Antibiotics**

The WHO call for farmers to stop disease prevention uses of antibiotics in food-animal production is ill-advised and wrong. Denying pigs, cows and chickens necessary antibiotics would be unethical and immoral, leading to animal suffering and possibly death, and could compromise the nation's food supply.

The U.S. pork industry's goal is to reduce the need for antibiotics, and it has devoted time and resources to that end, including adopting good antibiotic stewardship practices such as strictly adhering to FDA-set antibiotic withdraw periods. But stopping the use of antibiotics for treating animals that are or, without treatment, will become sick is antithetical to pork farmers' and veterinarians' moral obligation to care for their pigs.

Additionally, using small amounts of preventive antibiotics in animals known to be exposed to disease may help veterinarians avoid using higher amounts of more medically important antibiotics to treat sick animals.

[For information about antibiotics use in pork production, visit [www.porkcares.org/antibiotics](http://www.porkcares.org/antibiotics)]

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*NPPC is the global voice for the U.S. pork industry, protecting the livelihoods of America's 60,000 pork producers, who abide by ethical principles in caring for their animals, in protecting the environment and public health and in providing safe, wholesome, nutritious pork products to consumers worldwide. For more information, visit [www.nppc.org](http://www.nppc.org).*