



## **Minutes of Meeting: Essential Veterinary Drug Program Coordination Meeting & National Veterinary Medicines Committee (NVMC) Meeting**

**Date: 13 to 14 of February 2025**

**Venue: Lhazey Suits, Gelephu**

### **A) Essential Veterinary Drug Program (EVDP) Coordination Meeting**

**1. Opening Address:** The Program Director (PD) delivered the opening address, welcoming the participants and highlighting the key agenda points for discussion. He encouraged active participation, urging attendees to voice any issues or concerns regarding veterinary drug management. He also emphasized the importance of collaborative decision-making in ensuring an efficient veterinary drug supply system.

#### **2. Keynote address**

The meeting was chaired by the Chief, AHD and her keynote address began by conveying the regards and wishes from the Director, DoL. She emphasized the roles of EVDP and SOPs for the welfare of the animals and towards food security. She added that the quality and efficiency are very important in the delivery of veterinary services towards aligning with the 13th FYP target of commercialization building resilience in livestock production.

#### **3. Discussion on issues and way forward**

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Responsible Agency</b>
<b>Non-Uniform Submission of Requisitions</b>	LCS (Livestock Centre Store) reported inconsistencies in submission formats. Requested all centres to adhere to the standard tabular format available on the NCAH (National Centre for Animal Health) website.	<b>LCS:</b> To monitor and ensure adherence. <b>All Centres:</b> To comply with the requested format.
<b>Transportation Challenge - Requirement of JUMBOO Truck</b>	AHD (Animal Health Division) reported that the requisition process for the vehicle had been initiated. The floor was also informed about the difficulty in according approval from the Ministry of Finance regarding the procurement of vehicle despite having a committed funding, citing examples of Pandemic Fund and other projects.	<b>DOL (Department of Livestock):</b> To follow up on the proposal.
<b>Emergency Medicine Requisition Issues</b>	It was discussed that centers often submit emergency medicine requisitions soon after receiving their regular supplies. Possible	<b>LCS:</b> To verify and rectify distribution discrepancies. <b>All Centres:</b> To provide





	causes include inaccurate indenting by centers or discrepancies in distribution by the LCS. Additionally, issues such as under- or oversupply and the provision of drugs nearing expiry were also noted.	correct indents
<b>Sensitization of Veterinary Information System (VIS)</b>	Many new recruits struggle to use the Veterinary Information System (VIS) effectively, which can impact the efficiency and accuracy of their work. To address this, it is essential to provide structured training for new recruits, ensuring they gain the necessary skills and confidence in using the system. This training should be conducted by their respective Veterinary Officers (VOs) and Regional Heads, who can offer hands-on guidance and practical insights. By implementing this approach, new recruits will be better equipped to utilize the VIS efficiently, leading to improved data management, reporting, and overall service delivery.	<b>RD (Regional Director):</b> Oversee training. <b>RVOs (Regional Veterinary Officers):</b> Ensure training. <b>DLOs (District Livestock Officers):</b> Support training. <b>VOs (Veterinary Officers):</b> Conduct hands on training.
<b>Traffic Light System for Antibiotic Use</b>	<p>Antibiotics classified into three access levels in the guideline:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>High Access:</b> (e.g., OTC) - Available at all centres.</li> <li>2. <b>Medium Access:</b> (e.g., Metronidazole) - Available at specific regional veterinary hospitals and DVHs.</li> <li>3. <b>Restricted Access:</b> (e.g., Ceftriaxone, Quinolones, Enrofloxacin) - Available at NCAH, Serbithang, RLDC, and NVH. <b>All Centres &amp; LCS:</b> To ensure antibiotic distribution following these classifications.</li> </ol>	NCAH, NVH, RLDC, RVH & EC, DVHs, RNRECs, Central agencies





## B) 14th NVMC Meeting Chaired by Chief, AHD

### 1. Members & Co-opt Members of NVMC

The committee structure was reviewed, listing the **permanent members, including the Chief of the Animal Health Division, the Program Director of the National Centre for Animal Health, and the Head of the National Veterinary Hospital**. The chairmanship will be carried out among the three on rotational basis. Additionally, co-opt members include RD, RVOs, VOs and In-charges/representatives from Central Farms, BFDA, NCA and Wildlife. It was decided that members will be listed by designation or agency rather than by individual names to ensure consistency in representation. **Action: NVMC Secretariat, NVMC members**

### 2. Endorsement of Documents

Several key documents were presented with necessary revisions and updates for endorsement as follows:

- Standard Treatment Guidelines (STG),
- Antibiotic Guidelines,
- Drug Formulary,
- Essential Veterinary Drug List (EVDL).
- EVDP strategy & SOPs
- Medicine Costing (To continue working as required data were not available)

The NVMC, in principle, endorsed the updated version of these documents and directed the team leaders of the working group to finalize the comments and suggestion provided and submit to the DVEU, NCAH within 15 days, i.e., on the 27th of February 2024. **Action: Team leaders of group**

### 4. Additions and Removals in EVDL

The EVDL was also update with deletion and addition of certain drugs as below:

#### New Additions to EVDL

Amoxicillin Clavulonate (Injectable, Tablet, Depot)  
Ondansetron Injection  
Pantoprazole Injection  
Simethicone Oral Suspension  
Ursodiol Capsule (Cholestatic Drug)  
SAME (Antioxidant)  
Ketorolac

#### Drugs Removed (Restricted Access)

Ceftriaxone  
Enrofloxacin  
Metronidazole  
Cefoperazone Intramammary-Fusion





Fentanyl  
Methadone Injection  
Carboxymethyl Cellulose  
Gabapentin Capsule  
Palladia (Toceranib)  
Yohimbine  
Theophylline  
Salbutamol  
LSD Vaccination

The addition, deletion should be recorded with providing justifications, ensuring that necessary changes align with current requirements. This is in view of some drugs removed from the list in previous edition gets added again hence, at such times, it could be referred easily. **Action: Team Leaders & NVMC secretariat**

#### 4. Specifications on Herbal Products

The Bhutan Food and Drug Authority (BFDA) stressed the requirement of product content /specifications especially herbals in the EVDL of which are currently missing. Since specifications are important for quality control and monitoring purposes, each drugs should have specifications. **Action: Team Leaders**

#### 5. Renaming of EVD Programme

Currently the management includes beyond the essential veterinary medicines like vaccines, consumables & equipment. Hence, to reflect a broader scope of management of the items, the *Essential Veterinary Drug Programme* has been renamed as **Essential Veterinary Supply System (EVSS)** to be managed by DVEU under the National Centre of Animal Health. **Action: DOL, NCAH**

#### 6. Endorsement and Compliance of SOPs

**For efficient management of EVSS**, certain new Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) developed were endorsed for strict compliance, v.i.z. **controlled drugs, pharmacovigilance, Adverse Drug Reactions (ADR), and Adverse Events Following Immunization (AEFI)**. **Action: DOL, NCAH, NVH, RLDC, RVH & EC, DVHs, RNRECs, Central agencies**

#### 7. Online Reporting for ADR & AEFI

To streamline the monitoring of drug safety, all centres are now required to report adverse drug reactions (ADR) and adverse events following immunization (AEFI) online. This measure aims to enhance the fast tracking and management of adverse reactions veterinary drug-related issues. **Action: NCAH, NVH, RLDC, RVH & EC, DVHs, RNRECs, Central agencies**





## 8. Reporting Frequency for Veterinary medicine usage

A proposal was raised to modify the reporting system from quarterly to bi-annual. However, after thorough discussion, the Chair clarified that the existing **quarterly schedule will be maintained** to ensure more accurate data collection and better tracking of medicine usage as an interim measure till G2C, LIMS, VIS integrated software is completed and rolled out. **Action:** NCAH, NVH, RLDC, RVH & EC, DVHs, RNRECs, Central agencies

## 9. Medicine indent for non-departmental organization

As experienced, the non-indented distribution of medicines especially by the non-departmental organizations like, DOFPs & CNR lead to drug shortages. Hence, it was agreed that the annual indent by these organizations to be submitted on time. **Action: DoFPs, CNR**

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**ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF BHUTAN**  
 Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock  
 Department of Livestock  
**NATIONAL CENTRE FOR ANIMAL HEALTH**  
 Serbithang: Thimphu



**Annexure: Participant List**

List of Participants for EVDP coordination meeting & 14th National Veterinary Committee Meeting (13 to 14 of February 2025)				
Sl no	Name	Designation	Organization	Remarks
1	Dr. Rinzin Pem	Chief	AHD, DoL	NVMC Chair
2	Dr. Sangey Rinchen	PD	NCAH	NVMC permanent member
3	Dr. N K Thapa	ES II	DVEU, NCAH	Secretariat for NVMC
4	Mr. Sangay Tshering	Sr. ES	DVH, Haa	
5	Mr. Pema Wangchuk	Sr. ES	RVH Gelephug	Coopt member NVMC
6	Mr. Thukten	Sr. ES	RLDC Kanglung	Coopt member NVMC
7	Mr. Bikash Rai	LS	DVH Tsimasham	
8	Dr. Jamtsho	Sr. VO	DVH Wangdi	
9	Dr. Narayan Pokhrel	Dy.CVO	DVH Mongar	
10	Dr. Kinzang Chedup	Sr.VO	RVH&EC Dewathang	Coopt member NVMC
11	Mr. Dhang Bdr. Tamang	DLPO	NPDC Gelephug	Coopt member NVMC
12	Dr. Karma Cheozang	VO	NVH Thimphu	







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13	Dr. Rinchen Tshering	VO	DVH Punakha	
14	Dr. Jamtsho	VO	DVH Bumthang	
16	Dr Meena Samal	DCVO	NVH, Motithang	Coopt member NVMC
17	Dr. Chimi Jamtsho	DCVO	RVH & EC Pling	Coopt member NVMC
18	Ms. Menuka Rai	Sr.LHS	DVEU, NCAH	
19	Dr. Kinley Dorji	ESII	NVH, Motithang	NVMC Vice Chair
20	Mr. Namgay Phuntsho	Sr ES I	DVH Thimphu	
21	Mr. Jigme Wangdi	Specialist	DoL	
22	Mr. Kuenzang Gyeltshen		NCD DoFPS	Coopt member NVMC
23	Mr. Yeshay Tshering	LHS	LCS Pling	Coopt member NVMC
24	Mr. Bhakta Bdr Gurung	Sr. Lab Tech	DVH Samtse	
25	Ms. Karma Wangmo	ES	DVH Lhuntsi	
26	Mr. Shedra Wangchuk	LS	DVH Tashigang	
27	Mr. Sonam Chophel	Sr RO	MPD, BFDA	Coopt member NVMC
28	Dr Sonam	DVO	DVH Tashiyangtse	





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	Choden			
29	Mr. Roshan Rai	Sr. Lab Tech	DVH Dagana	
30	Dr. Jigme Tshewang	VO	DVH Gasa	
31	Dr. Jigdreel Dorji		CNR, RUB	
32	Mr. Ugyen Rinzin	Sr. LHS	NPDC, Sarpang	
33	Dr. Dorji	PD	NDDC	Coopt member NVMC
34	Dr. Thukten Chophel	DVO	DVH, Sarpang	
35	Dr. Cheten Norbu	VO	DVH, Pemagatshel	
36	Mr. Jigme Dorji	Sr ES	DVH, Trongsa	
37	Mr. Cheten Dorji	Sr. LPS	NDCA, Gelephu	Coopt member NVMC
38	Dr. Nima Gyeltshen	VO	DVH Tsirang	
39	Dr. Tshering Dendup	VO	DVH Zhemgang	

