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**Case No.** QC-020305-2454      **From:** Trisha Dowling, DVM, MS, DACVIM & DACVCP

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**Re :** Spectam      **Date:** 3/10/2005

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**Request:** Spectinomycin at 20 mg/kg IM for scours.

Spectinomycin is approved for use in swine in the European Union. In a study from the EU, (Bergwerff, A.A., P. Scherpenisse, and N. Haagsma. 1998. HPLC determination of residues of spectinomycin in various tissue types from husbandry animals. Analyst 123:2139-44) pigs were injected with spectinomycin at 15 mg/kg IM and kidney residues were easily detectable for 5 days to approximately 2 ppb. In a JECFA report, pigs injected with 10 mg/kg of spectinomycin had no residues detectable at the injection sites by day 14, but the limit of detection of the assay was only 400 ppb. There is no approval for spectinomycin in pigs in Canada and no MRL even in cattle, where it is approved for use. Previous CgFARAD inquiries have dealt with oral lincomycin/spectinomycin product injected intramuscularly, for which we have given very conservative recommendations due to the compounding issues. As this is a product formulated for injection, I feel more comfortable making recommendations than when an oral product is given intramuscularly but still feel that a conservative recommendation should be given. So I suggest a 27 withdrawal interval for a 20 mg/kg IM dose of Spectam injectable given to swine.

Therefore, the Canadian gFARAD recommends a withdrawal interval of 27 days, which should be sufficient so that detectable residues are not found at slaughter. Furthermore, this recommendation for residue avoidance does not address the risks of developing or transmitting antimicrobial resistance from treated animals to other animals or humans following the extralabel use of this antimicrobial. Because the Canadian gFARAD withdrawal recommendation is not an official withdrawal time and is based on data that has not been reviewed nor approved by the Veterinary Drugs Directorate of Health Canada, responsibility for residue violations rests with the prescribing or attending veterinarian.