University of Mosul Lecture No.: 4 College of Veterinary Medicine

Date: 2025 -2026

Unit of Scientific Affairs

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Lecture title: Administrations of Medicines

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Summary: Medicines are chemical substances given to animals either to treat diseases or to prevent them. They are formulated in various forms to match the needs of the animal and the type of illness being addressed. Additionally, drugs can be administered through several different routes, depending on the condition and the most effective method for delivering the medication.

Administrations of Medicines

Drugs are chemical substances which are given to the animals either for curing - treatment as remedy - or for prophylaxis as prevention.

Medicines are composed of different shapes to suit nature of the animal and pathological condition. There are different routes of administration of the drugs.

Shape (forms) of drugs:

- 1- Solid shaped drugs "solid medicines" e.g. boluses (balls), pills, tables, capsules, powders, pessaries, suppositories.
- 2- Semi-solid drugs: e.g. ointments, electuaries, poultice, blisters.
- 3- Liquid drugs: e.g. Drenches, eye drops, nasal drops, lotions, fomentations, tinctures, injections, enema (rectal enema), drafts.
- 4- Vapours drugs and inhalations.

Routes of Drug Administrations:

- 1- Orally, per-os, by mouth: e.g. boluses, tables, capsules, powders, drenches, electureis.
- 2- Through eyes: e.g. eye drops, lotions, eye ointment.

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- 3- Through the nose: e.g.: nasal drops, vapours, inhalation, volatile, odoures: eucalyptus.
- 4- Per rectum: e.g. Rectal pessaries, rectal enema.
- 5- Per vagina: e.g. vaginal douche, vaginal pessaries.
- 6- Through the teat: Intra mammary: e.g. ointments, injections, solutions.
- 7- Drugs given on the skin: e.g. ointment, blisters, linaments, fomentations, lotions, tinctures.
- 8- Through the skin: e.g. injections

Stomach tube:

Uses:

- 1- To administer a drug of high bitter, pungent, offensive odours and unacceptable taste.
- 2- To ensure the total administration of the drug into the stomach.
- 3- In case of partial or complete obstruction of the esophagus. In case of tympany in cattle, it is used to allow gas to escape through the tube.
- 4- To prevent the incorrect administrations of the drug i.e. foreign body preumoma occurrence.
- 5- In case of presence of disease or lesion in the mouth or throat.

Precautions followed for stomach tube application:

- 1- The stomach tube should be clean and sterilized. Sterilization of the tube is carried out by putting it in boiled water after each application.
- 2- The tube should be lubricated by oil substance to facilitate its use.

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- 3- Mark present and directions of application should be followed.
- 4- The stomach tube is used through the nasal cavity in horses and through mouth orifice in cattle.