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To: Regulators and Drug Residue Database Providers

From: Dennis W. Tidwell, Technical Director, National Milk Drug Residue Database Project (NMDRD)

During the 1991 meeting of the National Conference on Interstate Milk Shipments (NCIMS) the voting delegates authorized a national program for compiling the results of drug residue testing by industry and state regulatory agencies. We have already surpassed the 20th anniversary of the NMDRD. In addition to the substantial changes to the milk industry, which have occurred over the past 20 years, there have also been the inevitable changes in reporting personnel; especially, at the state, territorial and third party regulatory level.

Our experience suggested it might be advisable to reissue and reinforce the reporting requirements because of the above changes. The need to do so has been confirmed every two years when we present an update on the NMDRD at the biennial NCIMS meeting and entertain questions from old and new data reporters.

The questions and suggestions from participants have been helpful in assessing the strengths and weaknesses of the program. We have also found some excellent procedures to be in place, which we can use as recommendations when the need arises.

Audits conducted during previous years included discussions of a number of reporting issues with industry and regulatory officials, which lend themselves to a Question and Answer (Q and A) format that has been appended to these instructions. By combining the instructions and Q and A, we hope to more fully meet the goal of the project, which was to capture and report the drug residue testing being performed by the milk industry and regulatory officials.

The Appendix “N” Modification Committee of NCIMS began an 18 month Pilot Project on July 1, 2017, to gather additional information on the industry testing of milk for tetracyclines. These tetracycline tests should be included in your monthly reports until the close of the Pilot Project or further instructions are provided by the Appendix “N” Modification Committee.

As a final note, the most recent contract between the FDA and GLH, Inc. changed the publication date for the Annual Report to December 15th. Participants are reminded that all data up to and including September, are due on or before December 1, for inclusion in the Summary Report. The data should be sent via the web-based reporting application which all regulatory data reporters are registered to use. This is the most important reporting date of the year because we need to analyze all the data and begin preparation of the annual report.

Thanks again for your cooperation in this program. Please feel free to call me at 609-890-0375 or send me an e-mail at techdirector@nmdrd.com should you have any questions. You may also contact our Database Administrator, Cynthia Petersen, at 518-727-5200; e-mail dbadmin@nmdrd.com to alter registration (s) for use of the web-based reporting application.

Sincerely,

Dennis W. Tidwell
Technical Director

Attachments:

1. Reporting Form and Instructions for Submitting Data for the NMDRD
   Also found at: https://nmdrd.com/NMDRDReportFormWithInstructions.pdf
2. Question and Answer Document
   Also found at: https://nmdrd.com/QuestionsandAnswers2018.pdf
3. NMDRD Data Reporting Instructions
   Also found at: https://nmdrd.com/NMDRDDataReportingInstructions.pdf