

- SOP No:** ATT 020
- SUBJECT:** Vaccination of pigs using both intramuscular and subcutaneous techniques
- POLICY:** Minimum number of 2 operators required.
- Demonstrator:** Operators should be familiar with the correct techniques and the anatomy of pigs before attempting this procedure.
- Students:** Procedures should be clearly demonstrated before student attempts them. Students should be aware of the requirements for aseptic technique.
- Sturdy covered footwear must be worn
No more than 2 injections should be administered to an individual animal per day
- PRECAUTIONS:** Operators must use gloves and disinfect them between animals to prevent the transmission of blood-borne diseases
Equipment must be cleaned between animals
Wash hands and exposed body parts thoroughly with soap and water after handling pigs.
Reusable needles must be sterile and changed between animals to prevent transmission of disease between pigs.
- EQUIPMENT:** Ensure that the drugs to be used have been stored and prepared according to the directions and note the expiry date. Record date of vaccination, and batch number.
- Check the recommended method of vaccination for each drug as directed by manufacturer
16-18 gauge 2.5-3.75 cm needles for large pigs and small metal re-usable needles (23g) for small pigs
- PROCEDURE:**
1. **Subcutaneous injections** – As skin is closely adhered to the body, vaccination volume is limited. Follow direction for the particular drug to be administered.
 2. Insert needle into the lateral side of the neck, immediately posterior to the base of the ear.
 3. **Intramuscular injections** – Location for vaccination is the cervical muscle using a needle at least 3.75cm long for juvenile pigs. Smaller pigs will be picked up individually, restrained against body by one person and injected high up on neck behind ear. Large pigs will be injected in the cervical muscle behind the ear using a large needle (at least 3.75 cm long, 18 gauge) while restrained in their crates.
- On completion of procedure observe animal for signs of excessive distress and treat if required.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

DATE ISSUED: 24.06.2009

REVISED:

REFERENCES

1. McCurnin, D. M. & Bassert, J.M. 2006, *Clinical textbook for veterinary technicians*. Elsevier Saunders, p130.
2. Wolfensohn, S & Lloyd, M 1998, *Handbook of laboratory animal management and welfare*, Blackwell Science.
3. <http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/livestock/animal-welfare/general/other/livestock/sop/pigs/intramuscular-injection>
4. <http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/livestock/animal-welfare/general/other/livestock/sop/pigs/subcutaneous-injection>