

# VETERINARY CLIENT PATIENT RELATIONSHIP

EDUCATION | BUILDING A VIBRANT CLUB



## **EDUCATION**

The elements of a vibrant club meeting are designed to meet youth needs of belonging, independence, mastery and generosity.

- Welcome (10-20 min)
- Education (20-30 min)
- Recreation (20-30 min)
- Business Meeting (10-20 min)

## **CONCEPT**

This activity demonstrates that producers and their veterinarians must work together as a team to accomplish their goals.

#### **AUDIENCE**

Intended for any size group of youth in grades 4-12.

## **PRIORITY AREA**

Agriculture and Natural Resources, STEM

## **MATERIALS**

- One 5-gallon water jug for every ten students
- Rope 10 pieces of rope for each water jug, each about 5 feet long.
- Water enough water to fill

# **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Veterinarian Client Patient Relationship (VCPR) is the established relationship between a veterinarian and the client to optimize the client's animal's health. In June 2023, a new law was passed requiring livestock producers to obtain a prescription to purchase certain antibiotics for their animals. The antibiotics that require a prescription are medically important to humans, meaning they are also used in human medicine. Due to the change, you must have a VCPR in place to be prescribed antibiotics for your animals. This change was made to help support responsible antibiotic use through more veterinary oversight to help combat antimicrobial resistance (AMR). A veterinarian and client working together is crucial for using antibiotics responsibly. Working across animal, human, and plant industries to optimize health for all is called One Health. The One Health approach encourages all sectors to work together to combat AMR.

Before the activity, you must tie the ten pieces of rope to the jug. Ensure the ropes are tied around the jug so the youth can be in a circle. Fill the jug with water about 80% to the top. Then, place a large bucket or tub for the water to be dumped.

DO

Start by saying: Imagine you have an animal like a dog, steer or goat. When your animal gets sick, you take them to the doctor called a veterinarian. The relationship between the vet, you, and your animal is called a veterinarian-client-patient relationship and it is very important.

In June 2023, there was a new law about medicine for meat animals. Some medicines, like antibiotics, can also be used to help people when they are sick. Before, farmers could buy these medicines easily. But now, they need a special paper, like a note from the doctor, to buy these antibiotics. This law was made to make sure these important medicines are used the right way.

To get these medicines, farmers must have a good relationship with a vet. They have to work together to keep animals healthy. This is important because it helps not just animals, but also people and plants. Everyone working together like this is called 'One Health.' It's like a big team making sure everyone stays well and medicines work the right way."

- the water jug about 80% of the way
- Bucket large water bucket or tub that you can dump the water into

## **SPACE NOTES**

Outside when the weather is appropriate with space that you can do a water activity. Towels are not needed as long as you are in an area that you can spill water.

### **STANDARDS**

HS-ETS1-3. Evaluate a solution to a complex real-world problem based on prioritized criteria and trade-offs that account for a range of constraints, including cost, safety, reliability, and aesthetics as well as possible social, cultural, and environmental impacts.

*MA-LA1-8.* Cause and effect relationships may be used to predict phenomena in natural systems.

## **RESOURCES**

To learn more about animal science projects, please check out these resources in the Extension Store.

- Iowa 4-H Project Area Guides (https://store.extension. iastate.edu/= ProductList? CategoryID=143&S=0&A=0&F=0)
- Animal U (https://www. extension.iastate.edu/animalu/)
  Please check out these resources to learn more about VCPR and Antimicrobial Resistance.
- https://www.niamrre.org/
- https://www.avma.org/resourcestools/pet-owners/petcare/ veterinarian-client-patientrelationship-vcpr
- https://www.extension.iastate. edu/smallfarms/over-counterantibiotics
- https://www.fda.gov/ media/162069/download
- https://www.cdc.gov/onehealth/ index.html

- 1. Split the youth into groups of 10 or less
- 2. Explain the goal to the youth, "The goal is to dump the water into the bucket while only hanging on to the rope."
- 3. Ask the group, "How many people do you think you need to successfully accomplish this goal?"
- 4. Have the group try with the number of people they guessed would successfully accomplish the goal.
- 5. Then, tell the youth, "Thinking about One Health, let's try with everyone." Give them all the straps and have them complete the activity.

**REFLECT** 

- What was the difference between the small and large groups' success rates?
- Why was having a larger team more successful?

**APPLY** 

- What does Veterinarian Client Patient Relationship (VCPR) mean to you?
- Why is VCPR important? Now more than ever, we are facing the impact of AMR. We all must work together on this issue. It is important to have a VCPR because things are constantly changing, and we need to work as a larger system to ensure that all the tools in our toolbox are effective as long as possible.

# **VIBRANT CLUBS BEST PRACTICES**

- Consider setting a project area learning goal related to AMR and one of the animal science projects.
- Demonstrate your learning in animal science through a fair exhibit, presentation, or poster.
- Participate in livestock judging, meat evaluation, livestock quiz bowl, and skillathon.
- Check with your extension office to find out if you can attend some upcoming workshops. If they're for a younger age range, consider checking to see if you could help at the event.

To keep youth of all ages actively engaged, you can ask how they think the activity will go with the different numbers of participants. Feel free to include various age groups in the different teams. To make the activity work for a smaller or larger group, you will need to get the number of jugs to fit the size of the group. If your group is too large, put them into smaller groups of ten youth at most. You may encourage youth voice during the activity by asking what they see, how it relates to their 4-H project area.

# REFERENCES

Written by Sarah Al-Mazroa Smith, PhD, education and training coordinator, National Institute of Microbial Resistance Research and Education, and Amy Powell, PhD, ANR Extension specialist, Iowa State University Extension and Outreach.

For more information on the elements of a vibrant club, please see publication 4H 4004, Building a Vibrant Club at <a href="https://store.extension.iastate.edu/product/12893">https://store.extension.iastate.edu/product/12893</a>.

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