



Authorized Medicines Sales (AMS) Outlets

SELLING AUTHORIZED MEDICINES?

Frequently Asked Questions for Authorized Medicine Sales and Premises Identification

This document is for Authorized Medicine Sales (AMS) outlets and provides answers for **frequently asked questions** (FAQs) related to the new requirement to record a PID Number with respect to the purchase and sale of authorized medicines.

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1. What is the Authorized Medicine Sales (AMS) regulation?

The Authorized Medicine Sales Regulation (AMS Regulation) came into effect on July 1, 2014 and it replaced the Production Animal Medicine Regulation. Information regarding the AMS Regulation can also be found in the Qualification Certificate Home Study Manual.

If you would like to familiarize yourself with the basic AMS Regulation program information please go to <http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/general/progserv.nsf/all/pgmsrv451>

2. What is a Premises Identification (PID) Number?

A PID Number is a nine character unique identifier (consisting of a combination of number and letters) that is associated with a specific land location. Alberta PID Numbers start with the letter 'A'.

3. How do I help my customers find their PID Number?

The customer can call the Ag-Info Centre toll-free at 310-FARM (3276) to have the PID System checked. Once the customer answers some standard security questions, Agriculture and Forestry (AF) staff will check the database to (1) see that they have an account and (2) provide them with their PID Number.

Outlets are encouraged to provide customers the opportunity to call the Ag-Info Centre, toll-free, from the store to retrieve their PID Numbers. A PID wallet card has been provided so that the customer can record their number for reference.

4. Can I look up the PID Number for my customers?

NO, the customer must be present and call the Ag-Info Centre toll-free at 310-FARM (3276) to have Agriculture and Forestry staff check the PID System for their number due to FOIP/ PIPA restrictions. However, an online application is being developed that will allow AMS outlets to look-up PID Numbers for registered land locations. Information about the online application will be communicated to AMS outlets in the near future.

5. What if the customer has a PID Number but it is after hours so they cannot call the Ag-Info Centre to retrieve their PID Number?

The customer must provide a PID Number corresponding to a location where their animals are located to the AMS outlet in order to proceed with the sale. If they do not have a number at the time of the sale they cannot proceed with the transaction. The online application discussed in question 4 above will help AMS Outlets look up PID numbers when it is available.

6. Does the customer need a PID Number every time they purchase authorized medicines?

If they are purchasing medicines that are to be used on production animals, **YES**.

The AMS Regulation applies to production animals having authorized medicines administered to them. Under the AMS Regulation a "production animal" is defined as:

- (i) a species of animal whose animal products (e.g. cattle, swine, sheep, goats and poultry) or animal by-products (e.g. honey) may be used for human ingestion, including horses, or
- (ii) a species of animal used for crop pollination (e.g. bees),

BUT DOES NOT include dogs or cats (e.g. kennels)

7. Does the customer need to present a PID wallet card to the retailer?

NO, they will receive their PID Number in the form of a letter accompanied by a wallet card. It is up to the producer to keep track of this number and have it available when making a medicine purchase. Wallet cards are not official documents.



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8. Does the customer need a PID Number to purchase medicated feed?

NO, “medicated feeds” are covered under federal regulations so a provincially issued PID Number is not required.

The AMS Regulation does not apply to “(a) the sale of medicated feeds prepared either in accordance with the *Feeds Act* (Canada) or pursuant to a prescription issued by a registered veterinarian”.

9. Why do customers need a PID Number to purchase authorized medicine?

The Premises Identification (PID) Regulation requires that all producers with production animals have a PID Number. The AMS Regulation requires purchasers to supply a PID Number when making medicine purchases. This ensures producers are compliant with both the Premises Identification (PID) Regulation and AMS Regulation, which supports the *Animal Health Act*.

10. What are we tracking?

The intent of the legislation is to put in place both the necessary infrastructure and traceability systems to increase the capability of a rapid response to threats of disease outbreaks affecting animal health, public health and food safety. The Chief Provincial Veterinarian of Alberta (CPV) is given authority to play a lead role in animal disease response.

11. When someone purchases medicines at a vet clinic, why do they not ask for a PID Number?

Veterinarians follow different regulations, which dictates what they need to record and how.

The AMS Regulation does not apply to the sale of medicine by:

- (i) any person authorized by the *Veterinary Profession Act* to sell medicine, when acting under authority of that act, or
- (ii) any person authorized by the *Pharmacy and Drug Act* to sell medicine, when acting under authority of that Act

12. For what authorized medicines do I need to record the customer’s PID Number?

A PID Number needs to be recorded for all authorized medicine products that have a Drug Identification Number (DIN), excluding medicated feeds and items for pets (e.g. cats and dogs).

Talk to the Qualification Certificate (QC) holder on staff; they should be familiar with the AMS Regulation and the list of items which require the PID information to be recorded at purchase. If you still have questions, please contact the AF Inspection and Investigation Section at 1-866-252-6403 or 403-755-1474.

13. Is a QC Holder required to be on duty during business hours at the AMS outlet?

YES. Section 43.2 of the *Animal Health Act* states:

“No holder of an outlet licence shall sell authorized medicine unless the holder has on duty or has available for consultation throughout regular business hours at least one person who holds a qualification certificate”.

Although the QC may not be in the store, they need to be available for consultation.

14. Can a QC Holder sell authorized medicines from a trade show booth?

NO, the AMS Regulation states that the sale of Authorized Medicine can only be made from a licenced outlet and must meet the definition of a “permanent place of business”.

15. Can producers use their CCIA number instead of their PID Number?

NO, the CCIA number is not the same as an Alberta PID Number.



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16. If a producer has a CCIA number, does that mean they already have a PID Number?

NO, just because they have a CCIA number does not mean they have a PID Number. It is a best practise to contact the Ag-Info Centre 310-FARM (310-3276) to have their number looked up to ensure that they are providing accurate information.

17. When must outlets start recording a PID Number?

Immediately, the AMS Regulation came into effect on July 1, 2014.

18. What information does the AMS outlet need to record and then provide to the purchaser?

As per Section 18(3) of the AMS Regulation, an outlet when selling authorized medicine to a purchaser, shall record:

- (a) the name and telephone number of the purchaser,
- (b) the date of sale, and
- (c) the information that appears on the purchaser's receipt as set out in subsection (4).

As per Section 18(4) of the AMS Regulation, an outlet must supply the purchaser with a receipt containing the following information:

- (a) the name of the authorized medicine,
- (b) the lot number of the authorized medicine,
- (c) the quantity of authorized medicine purchased,
- (d) the expiry date of the authorized medicine, and
- (e) a Premises Identification (PID) Number of the owner of the animal or the commingling site.

19. What if an out-of-province customer makes a purchase?

Ask for some proof of residency (e.g. driver's license) and since they are not an Alberta resident they have not been issued an Alberta PID Number. Instead of an out of province PID Number, record the purchaser's full name, address and/or Legal Land Description (where applicable) in addition to the information referred to in subsections (3) and (4) of the regulation.

The outlet must supply the purchaser with a receipt containing all information set out in (3) and (4).

(3) An outlet licensee, when selling an authorized medicine to a purchaser, shall record;

- (a) the name and telephone number of the purchaser,
- (b) the date of sale, and
- (c) the information that appears on the purchaser's receipt as set out in subsection (4).

(4) **An outlet licensee shall provide to each purchaser of an authorized medicine a receipt that shows;**

- (a) the name of the authorized medicine,
- (b) the lot number of the authorized medicine,
- (c) the quantity of authorized medicine purchased,
- (d) the expiry date of the authorized medicine, and
- (e) a Premises Identification Number of the owner of the animal or the commingling site (**not required as per above**).



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20. Does a customer purchasing authorized medicines that won't be used on Production Animals (aka "Residential Purchaser") need to provide a PID Number?

NO, provided the AMS outlet is satisfied that the authorized medicine's intended use is for any one of the following three reasons/purposes and the same information is recorded as it would be for an out-of-province resident:

1. Personal Use (e.g. Bag Balm for psoriasis, Hydrogen Peroxide for shocking wells and Dettol for household and/or kennel cleaning),
2. Cats, and
3. Dogs.

21. Do we need to keep the physical (paper) copies of receipts at our store locations, or is it adequate to have the records of invoices stored electronically in our system?

Paper or electronic files are both acceptable as long as they can be accessed easily when the inspector requires the information to complete an audit or a trace out for locating purchasers of a product.

22. Where do we go to update our (AMS) Qualification Certificate Holder license? What if my Qualification Certificate expires? Where do I go for more information and testing dates?

Go to <http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/general/progserv.nsf/all/pgmsrv451> for the qualification certificate study manual and exam testing locations and dates for 2016.

Have we answered all your questions?

If you have any questions regarding premises identification in general, there is additional information at www.agriculture.alberta.ca/premises as well as on the first page of the Premises Identification Application. You can also refer to the Premises Identification Quick Tips publication for more information or to find out who can best answer your question.

