



# Authorized Medicines Sales (AMS) Outlets

## PURCHASING AUTHORIZED MEDICINES?

### Frequently Asked Questions for Providing a Premises Identification Number

This document provides answers for **frequently asked questions** (FAQs) related to the new requirement of providing a Premises Identification (PID) Number when purchasing medicines and medicated items for livestock from authorized medicine sales outlets.

The Authorized Medicine Sales Regulation (AMS Regulation) requires purchasers to supply a PID Number when making authorized medicine purchases. This ensures customers are compliant with both the AMS Regulation and Premises Identification (PID) Regulation, which supports the overall intent of the *Animal Health Act*. Regulations requiring Premises Identification became law January 1, 2009 as part of the *Animal Health Act*.

#### TABLE OF CONTENTS:

1. What is a Premises Identification (PID) Number?
2. How do I find my PID Number?
3. Can a retail outlet look up my PID Number for me?
4. What if I have a PID Number but it is after hours and I cannot call the Ag-Info Centre to retrieve the PID Number?
5. If I always keep my animals (e.g. horses) at a commingling site (e.g. stable), will I need a PID Number?
6. Do I need a PID Number every time I purchase authorized medicines?
7. Do I need to present a PID wallet card to the retailer?
8. Do I need a PID Number to purchase medicated feed?
9. Why is a PID Number required to purchase authorized medicine?
10. When someone purchases medicines at a vet clinic, why do they not ask for a PID Number?
11. For what authorized medicines does an AMS outlet need to record my PID Number?
12. Can I use my CCIA number instead of my PID Number?
13. If I have a CCIA number, do I already have a PID Number?
14. When will I be required to provide an AMS retailer with my PID Number?
15. Is a PID Number required if I am from out-of-province and want to make a purchase?
16. If I am purchasing authorized medicines that won't be used on Production Animals (as a "Residential Purchaser") do I need to provide a PID Number?
17. If I do not have a PID Number, how can I apply?



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## 1. What is a Premises Identification (PID) Number?

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

## 2. How do I find my PID Number?

You can call the Ag-Info Centre toll-free at 310-FARM (3276) to have the PID System checked. Once you answer some standard security questions, Agriculture and Forestry (AF) staff will check to (1) see if you have an account and (2) provide you with your PID Number.

When you set up a new PID Account, you will receive a wallet card for your reference.

## 3. Can a retail outlet look up my PID Number for me?

**No.** The customer must be present and call the Ag-Info Centre toll-free at 310-FARM (3276) to have AF staff check the PID System for the number due to Freedom of information and protection of privacy & *Personal Information Act* (FOIP/ PIPA) restrictions.

## 4. What if I have a PID Number, but it is after hours and I cannot call the Ag-Info Centre to retrieve the PID Number?

You **MUST** provide a PID Number at the time of purchase. Please have your number with you when purchasing authorized medicine products.

## 5. If I always keep my animals (e.g. horses) at a commingling site (e.g. stable), will I need a PID Number?

If your animals are only ever kept at a commingling site (e.g. feedlot or stable), you are not required to register for a PID Account. However, you will still need a PID Number to purchase authorized medicines. You must obtain the PID Number from the operator of the site where you keep your animal(s).

## 6. Do I need a PID Number every time I purchase authorized medicines?

**Yes,** If you are purchasing medicines that are to be used on 'production' animals. The AMSR 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. Do I need to present a PID wallet card to the retailer?

**No,** you will receive your PID Number in the form of a letter accompanied by a wallet card. It is up to you to keep track of this number and have it available when making a medicine purchase. Wallet cards are a handy reference, not official documents.

## 8. Do I 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”.



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## 9. Why is a PID Number required to purchase authorized medicine?

The AMS Regulation requires purchasers to supply a PID Number when making medicine purchases. This ensures customers are compliant with both the AMS Regulation and Premises Identification, which supports the *Animal Health Act*. Regulations requiring premises identification became law January 1, 2009 as part of the *Animal Health Act*. Premises Identification (PID), one of the pillars of traceability, links livestock (including horses and poultry) to land locations or premises. Alberta's PID Program was established to plan for, control and prevent the spread of animal diseases. It is also used as an early warning system to notify animal owners of a natural disaster such as a flood or fire that could affect their animals or operations.

## 10. 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.

## 11. For what authorized medicines does an AMS outlet need to record my PID Number?

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

## 12. Can I use my CCIA number instead of a PID Number?

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

## 13. If I have a CCIA number, do I already have a PID Number?

**No**, these are different numbers. It is a best practise to contact the Ag-Info Centre (310-3276) to have your number looked up to ensure you are providing accurate information for medicine purchases.

## 14. When will I be required to provide an AMS retailer with my PID Number?

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

To register for premises identification, please go online to [www.agriculture.alberta.ca/premises](http://www.agriculture.alberta.ca/premises) or call the Ag-Info Centre at 310-FARM (3276) for more information.

## 15. Is a PID Number required if I am from out-of-province and want to make a purchase?

**No**, a PID Number is not required if you are from out-of-province. If you do not have animals located on a premises in Alberta, you will not have a valid Alberta PID Number. You will be asked for some proof of residency (e.g. driver's license) to confirm that you are an out-of-province purchaser. Instead of a PID Number, the retailer will record provide your full name, address and/or Legal Land Description (where applicable).

## 16. If I am purchasing authorized medicines that won't be used on Production Animals (as a "Residential Purchaser") do I need to provide a PID Number?

**No**, provided the AMS outlet is satisfied that the authorized medicine's intended use is for one of the following three reasons/purposes and that the same information recorded for an out-of-province purchaser is recorded:



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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.

## 17. If I do not have a PID Number, how can I apply?

To apply, visit [www.agriculture.alberta.ca/premises](http://www.agriculture.alberta.ca/premises) or call the Ag-Info Centre at 310-FARM (3276) for more information.

### Have we answered all your questions?

If not, please contact the Ag-Info Centre at 310-FARM (3276). There is also more information on premises identification on our website at [www.agriculture.alberta.ca/premises](http://www.agriculture.alberta.ca/premises).

