



Needles and Injection Techniques

(See the Medical Supplies: Use and Storage section of the Producer Manual.)

Most producers will raise hogs for a lifetime without breaking a needle. The point we're making is that it can happen, and that producers should identify things they can do to make it less likely to happen, and plan what will be done if it does.

The ham, one of the most valuable cuts in a pig's carcass, is usually sold whole. Scars due to injections can produce tough gristle, and an injection abscess or cyst may not be detected until the consumer cuts into it. For several years now, packers have urged producers to give intramuscular injections in a pig's neck. If injection site complications happen there, minimal trim from the less valuable neck meat will eliminate the problem before it reaches the consumer.

12a) If hip site intramuscular injections are given, are they given only in breeding stock, and only according to the CQA® protocol for hip injections (see Producer Manual Chapter D4 page D4-14.)?

Yes No

12b) Are all other intramuscular injections given in the neck muscles of your pigs?

Yes No

Intramuscular injections are to be routinely administered in the neck muscles of the pigs. The hip injection site may only be used in animals committed to the breeding herd, and only in dosages of 5cc or less. Specific information for the hip injection site and protocol for use can be found in chapter D4 Medical Supplies: Use and Storage of the CQA® Producer Manual. Be aware that if animals are being given intramuscular injections in any other location(s), your farm cannot be recommended for CQA® registration. The timeline for the delay of your recommendation will vary depending on which animals are involved. If animals destined for market are involved, you may be waiting for as long as six months. If breeding stock is involved, a timeline for implementing the change will be determined between yourself and your validator. Your validator or provincial delivery agent can provide more information.

