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## HUMAN HEALTH AND INDUSTRIAL FARMING

Below is your February 2012 newsletter from [the Pew Campaign on Human Health and Industrial Farming](#).

### In this edition:

- Urgent Action Opportunity: Sign "We The People" Petition
- FDA Takes Measures to Preserve Effectiveness of Cephalosporins
- HHIF Staff Visits the CDC

### Urgent Action Opportunity: Sign "We The People" Petition

As a reminder, we recently started a ["We The People" petition](#) to the White House asking the Obama Administration and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to keep their promise to limit the injudicious uses of antibiotics in food animal production. Once we reach our goal of 25,000 signatures in 30 days the White House will respond. [We can do this!](#) In the first week, we gathered more than 5,500 signatures and we only have until March 16 to reach our goal!

Our petition is an effective way to demonstrate to the Obama Administration that there is great concern across the country about the misuse and overuse of antibiotics in industrial farming and that action must be taken to protect these life-saving drugs. As a reminder, FDA proposed new guidelines on appropriate antibiotic use in food animal production almost two years ago, but their target date to finalize their plan—June 2011—has come and gone. With antibiotic-resistant bacterial infections on the rise, we need the White House and the FDA to take action now.

**[Take action here by signing our petition.](#)** The process only takes a few minutes. And **please pass word along to your friends—we only have until March 16 to reach 25,000 signatures!**

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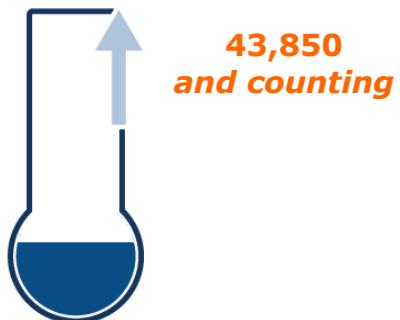


### FDA Takes Measures to Preserve Effectiveness of Cephalosporins

As mentioned in last month's newsletter, the FDA issued an updated rule that will limit the uses of cephalosporins in food animal production. This restriction is a victory for human health as it will help ensure this critically important class of antibiotics will continue to work to treat life-threatening infections today and in the future.

**\*Take Action\***  
**Sign "We the People" Petition**  
Urge FDA to finalize the [cephalosporin rule](#) to keep these critical drugs protected from overuse and misuse on industrial farms.

**Help Us Reach Our Goal:  
100,000 Supporters!**



Moms for Antibiotic Awareness includes moms, dads, grandparents, and others concerned about their family's health.

Already signed up? [Tell your friends about Moms for Antibiotic Awareness!](#)

### Follow Us



### More...

**Take Action:** Urge the FDA and the White House to [protect human health by keeping their commitments to address the overuse of antibiotics in food animal production](#).

**Take Action:** Ask your members of Congress to [co-sponsor the Preservation of Antibiotics for Medical Treatment Act](#).

[Email us](#) to share why you are concerned about the misuse of

Concerned about the misuse of antibiotics in food animal production.  
Visit our [newsroom](#).

This is not the first time the FDA has taken steps toward eliminating uses of cephalosporins on industrial farms. In 2008, the agency tried and failed to take similar action. That is why it is so important for the FDA to hear from the American people—those who rely on cephalosporins and other antibiotics to treat life-threatening infections.

**If you have not done so already, please take a moment and tell the FDA to finalize the cephalosporin rule to keep these critical drugs protected from overuse and misuse on industrial farms.**

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## HHIF Staff Visits CDC



HHIF project manager, Randi Teague; HHIF senior officer Gail Hansen, DVM; HHIF project director, Laura Rogers; Dr. Jean Whichard, DVM, CDC, lead, National Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance Team.

On February 2, three HHIF staff members visited the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#) to discuss important antibiotic resistance issues, and were given a tour of their [National Antimicrobial Resistance Monitoring System \(NARMS\)](#) labs.

[Read more...](#)

## SaveAntibiotics.org

The Pew Campaign on Human Health and Industrial Farming is working to save antibiotics by phasing out the overuse of the drugs in food animal production. We work with public health and food industry leaders, veterinarians, agricultural interests, academics and citizens groups who share our objective of preserving the integrity of antibiotics as a means of protecting human and animal health.



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