

ROTOVAC POLICY

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This Policy details the Company's procedures and practices in relation to the administration of Rotovirus vaccine on Dairy Holdings Limited (DHL) properties.

Firstly, good biosecurity practices can help keep calves and the farm team healthy. For more information on good practice head to <https://www.dairynz.co.nz/animal/calves/calf-care/>

It is not DHL policy to routinely vaccinate for Rotovirus. Vaccinating will only take place on a case-by-case basis where there has been a recent history of Rotovirus, and only after consultation and agreement from the farm supervisor.

2.0 TREATMENT

If approval has been reached with the farm supervisor, it is the policy of DHL that all cows (second calving or higher) of **even** tag numbers only be treated. This is important, as if the cows are to be treated again then the cows treated the prior year with *Rotovac Corona* can be treated with a cheaper booster option called *Scourguard*.

No first calving animals will be treated.

Therefore, up to 40% of the total animals wintered can be vaccinated, for example:

- **1000** cows wintered
- Subtract 20% 1st calving heifers = **200**
- This leaves **800** cows remaining of which only **even** tag numbers are to be vaccinated
- Total maximum **400** treatments

3.0 SEGREGATION

- The milk from these even numbered cows needs to be separated by collecting, either in a test bucket, or by using an air purging system.
- New-born calves must receive at least two litres of colostrum (first or second milking colostrum from vaccinated cows) within six hours of birth.
- The peak of antibodies in the colostrum of a vaccinated cow occurs between 0-24 hours after calving.
- Calves should then continue to receive colostrum, and/or milk from vaccinated cows for the duration of the critical two to three weeks neonatal period to provide locally active protection of the gut.
- Colostrum/milk can be collected for the first six to eight milkings from vaccinated cows, pooled and stored appropriated in a cool place.

4.0 COSTS ASSOCIATED

Where the Sharemilker owns greater than 50% of the herd, this cost is born in full by the sharemilker.

Where the Sharemilker/Contract Milker owns less than 50% of the herd, this cost will be borne by the Sharemilker/Contract Milker in their specified share, and the balance by the Farm owner.