

Richard M. Peters MD  
550 Everett Court  
Palo Alto, CA 94301  
Tel. (650) 322 6956  
email: dickpeters@earthlink.net

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Jane E. Henney, M.D.  
Commissioner  
U. S. Food and Drug Administration  
5600 Fishers Lane  
Rockville, MD 20857-0001

Dear Dr. Henney,

The rise in the incidence of antibiotic resistant human infections is a very serious problem as you know. As a physician who was involved in the early use of antibiotics I believe it is hard for those with no experience in the pre-antibiotic days to appreciate the horror of having to return to such a state. We need a program to encourage physicians to be more precise in the decisions regarding antibiotic use. More urgent is to face the dangerous use of tons of antibiotics in the chicken, pig and cattle industries and other meat producing operations.

I urge you to setup as soon as possible a system to monitor the use of antibiotics in animal husbandry and champion methods of controlling their use. The present promiscuous use of these important therapeutic agents for enhancing meat production is not an acceptable public health approach.

Please provide us with a reason to believe that the long range needs our society can proceed even with the present short sighted administration starting out in Washington.

Sincerely yours

Richard M. Peters, MD



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