

1

Identify cows to be dried off, for example with stockmarker spray on her leg.

2

Wash arms and hands clean. Wear a fresh pair of disposable gloves and keep clean and dry. Replace gloves frequently, preferably between cows.

3

Pre-dip each teat using a fast acting disinfectant, leave on for at least 30 seconds.

4

Wipe teats to be dried off with an individual paper towel per teat, paying particular attention to the teat end. Start with the teats furthest away, moving to the closest teat.

5

Keeping hold of the teat in one hand, wipe the teat and teat end with cotton wool soaked in surgical spirit. Focus on getting the teat end spotless. If there is dirt on the cotton wool after you have cleaned the teat end, repeat with a fresh piece of cotton wool. **Do not** let go of the teat.

6

Ideally an assistant should help prepare the tubes and hand them to you. **If using Internal teat sealant only proceed to step 9.**

ANTIBIOTIC

7

Using a partial insertion technique, infuse the whole antibiotic tube into the teat. **Only insert the tube end** and maintain a gentle pressure to stop the product leaking around the nozzle. **Do not let go of the teat.**

8

Without letting go, **massage** the antibiotic up the teat canal. Slide your non-tube hand down the teat after infusing and hold the teat end without touching the teat orifice to allow you to **massage** the contents up towards the udder with your tubing hand.

TEAT SEALANT

9

When using teat sealant, use the crook of your first finger and thumb to **pinch the base of the teat** where it joins the udder. The teat will bend towards you. Hold the pinch until the product has been infused into that teat.

10

Gently infuse the teat sealant until pressure builds up in the teat. Remove the teat sealant tube before letting go of the pinch to avoid sealant being forced up into the udder. **Do not massage after infusion.**

WHEN INFUSING TEAT SEALANT, CLEANLINESS OF THE TEAT END IS ABSOLUTELY CRITICAL

11

After each teat has the appropriate product infused it should have **post-milking teat dip or spray** applied.

12

Check that the cow is **permanently identified** as treated. This reduces the chances of milking a dry cow with antibiotic and causing antibiotic failure.

13

Allow the cow to **stand** in a clean yard for at least **30 minutes** before moving to dry cow accommodation or pasture.

14

In pasture-based systems, avoid recently dried-off cows walking long distances immediately after drying-off.

15

Check udders **daily** for signs of mastitis.

Watch online:

For more information (including videos), please visit: dairy.ahdb.org.uk/dry-cow-management

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