

ANIMAL DERIVED

MEDICAL PRODUCTS

DRESSINGS

and

PHARMACEUTICALS



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Person-centred care is the GOLD standard approach to healthcare delivery and has been shown to improve the safety and quality of healthcare, improve patient outcomes and experience, and improve the performance of healthcare organisations.

For this reason, healthcare professionals must take into consideration patients' religious beliefs, cultural beliefs, and lifestyles when prescribing medications or using surgical products and dressings.



Ethical Issues



Refusal of animal-derived medical products in a paediatric setting.

The benefit of implanted pig valves over mechanical ones is that no anticoagulants are required to be taken versus the use of a mechanical valves which requires life time use of anticoagulant medication and some restrictions on contact sports and other activities a normal child would enjoy.

The form of taking medications; tablet versus liquid

Lack of awareness is one of the many concerns faced by health professionals when discussing animal derived medical products.

There is no legal obligation for manufacturers to inform on the packaging what animal products have been used.

Responsibility for informing during obtaining an informed consent.

Should the parent or consenting child automatically inform the health professional about having particular moral or dietary preferences, or followers of a particular religion. OR Should the health professional ask the patient about their moral or dietary preference or their religious following.

Removing the capsule casing from tablets because of gelatin.



It is very difficult to find information about the composition of the produced products being used, especially about how much of the original animal and/or human derived content is still present in the final product; i.e. whether, in the finished product, it is still an active ingredient or has been rendered inactive.





Bovine (cow) , Porcine (pig) , and Murine (mouse), and Ovine (sheep) are found in some of the products and pharmaceuticals we use in the health services. There will be more.



BOVINE

is in TISSEEL and in capsule shells of medications eg TRAMADOL, and is in some heart valves and carotid patches

PORCINE

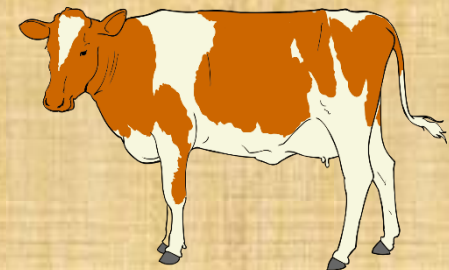
is in some of the surgical meshes eg PERMACOL and some heart valves, is in some pharmaceuticals such as HEPARIN and INSULIN and CLEXANE. is in DUODERM dressings

MURINE

is in AVASTIN (antineoplastic)

OVINE

is in ENDOFORM dressings and MYRIAD mesh

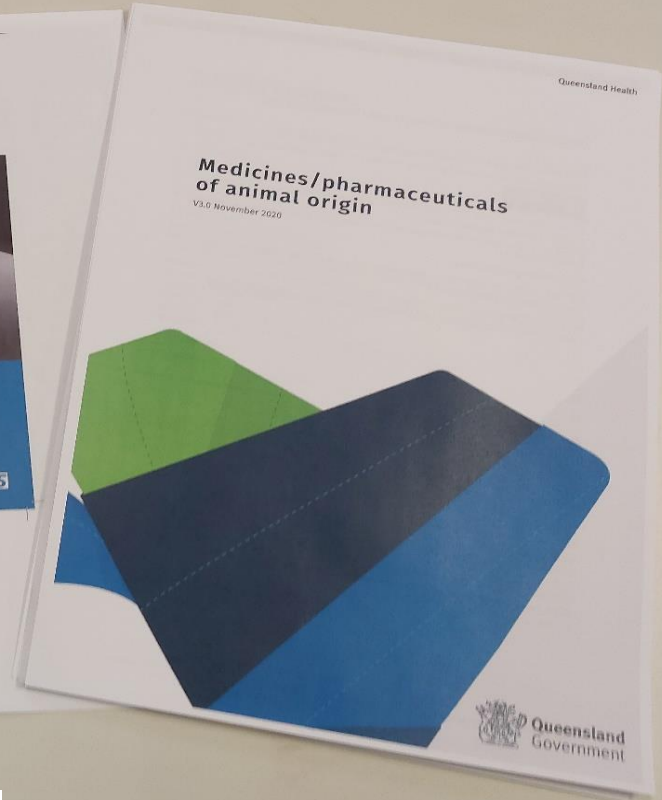
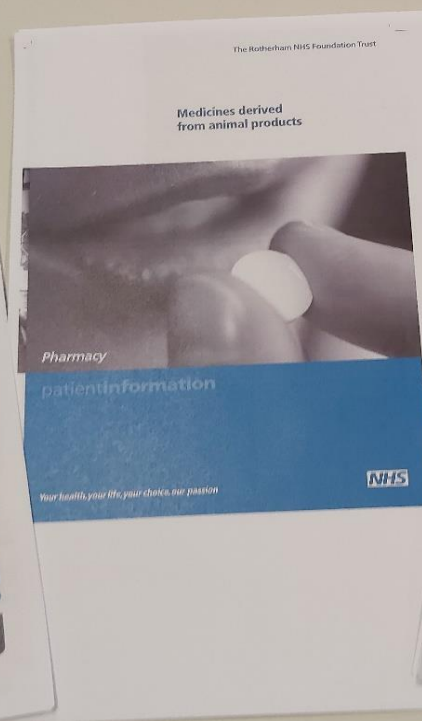
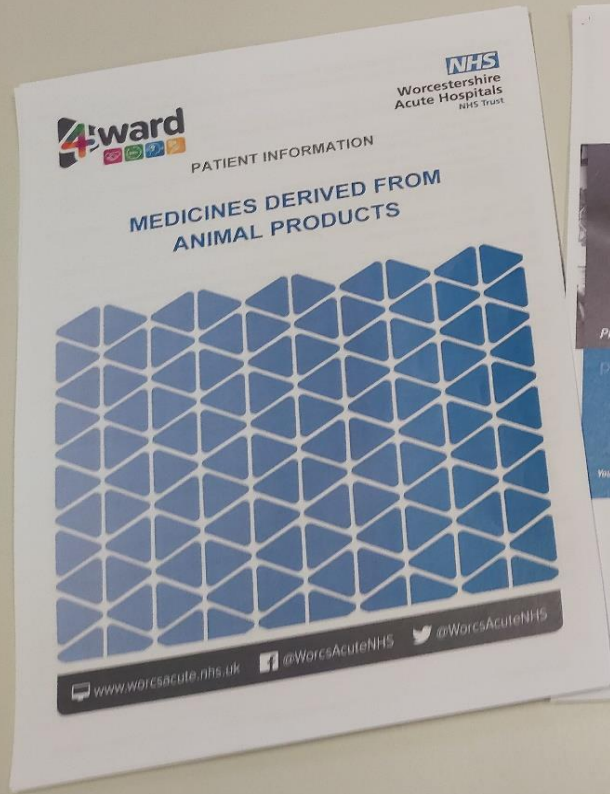




There will always be concerns about the depth of information needed to be given because of the individual patient's views for them to give an informed consent.

In some religious groups, eg Muslim, some accept a joint ruling by the WHO and their leaders that gelatin has been transformed to such an extent from its original source that it is permissible. Others do not accept this and will object to the presence of gelatin in medicines or products.

Where is the fine line drawn between the patient's wishes and the best outcome for the patient requiring surgery or a procedure and/or medication especially when there are no alternatives?





What percentage of pharmaceuticals are derived from animals?

Of the **252 essential chemicals** that have been selected by the **World Health Organization**, **11.1%** come from **plants**, and **8.7%** from **animals**, and of the **150 prescription drugs** currently in use in the **United States of America**, **27** have **animal** origin.

Of the **100 most prescribed** drugs in **primary care** in the **United Kingdom**, **74** contained an **animal-derived** ingredient.

How good are we at addressing an individual's moral, cultural and religious views when choosing animal-derived dressing products?

KEY POINTS:

Informed consent is key for individuals to make choices

Individuals should be asked whether there is any reason that an animal-derived wound care product could not be used.

Education for all health professionals is important, this should begin early on in the undergraduate curriculum and should raise awareness of the moral, cultural and religious beliefs in relation to managing an individual with a wound, including discussing dressing choice with patients.

Manufacturers of wound care products have a role in providing transparent information about whether a product is derived from animal products.

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Where To From Here ???



Manufacturers of the products and companies supplying to health facilities should have easy to read written information about the composition of the product which is readily available to health practitioners so they can discuss the product with the patients who can make an informed choice of treatment.

The health facilities should have information brochures / booklets for patients to access to allow them to read and seek advice before they have to give consent for a procedure.

Te Whatu Ora Health NZ should have information available on this topic.

People requiring further information can be referred to their pharmacist and/or their religious leader.





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Any QUESTIONS !!

