Which Mastitis Treatment?







Is the cow eating and otherwise well?

Is the udder relatively 'normal' in appearance and soft to touch?

Does the milk contain clots, with a relatively 'normal' appearance?

Mild / Moderate Mastitis

[Antibiotic A] every 12 hours

KetoMax with initial antibiotic treatment

Re-evaluate need for additional KetoMax the following day



Is the cow sick?

(e.g. high temperature, sunken eyes, hollow gutted)

Is the affected quarter swollen, hard, red, hot?

Is the milk watery or blood-tinged?



[Antibiotic B] every 24 hours

MeloxiVet with initial antibiotic treatment or KetoMax daily





Is more than one quarter infected?

Mastitis in Multiple Quarters

[Injectable Antibiotic] every 24 hours

Treat with MeloxiVet with initial antibiotic treatment where mastitis is severe

If mastitis is moderate treat with antibiotic and KetoMax, then re-evaluate need for KetoMax the following day



Has the cow failed to respond to the 'first line' treatment course?

Is this the cow's second (or more) case of mastitis this season?

Recommend milk sample taken prior to treatment and consider seeking vet advice

'Non-responders'/ Repeat Treatment

[Antibiotic C] every 24 hours

MeloxiVet with initial antibiotic treatment or KetoMax daily





Antibiotics for treating mastitis

Antibiotics treat the bacterial infection that causes mastitis. Most mastitis in NZ is caused by *Streptococcus sp.* and *Staphylococcus aureus*. It is important to treat mastitis quickly to avoid permanent damage to the quarter. Mastitis cases always require antibiotic treatment.

It is good practice to take a milk sample prior to treating with antibiotics and put this in the freezer. This allows testing for the bacterial cause of the mastitis if the cow fails to respond to the 'first line' treatment.

[Antibiotic A]

[Antibiotic B]

[Injectable Antibiotic]

[Antibiotic C]

Non steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs also help treat mastitis

In addition to an antibiotic, it is recommended to treat mastitic cows with a NSAID (non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug) to treat pain, fever and reduce inflammation, and thus speed recovery.

NSAIDs such as MeloxiVet and KetoMax treat pain, fever and inflammation. They provide pain relief to cows with painful, swollen udders. NSAIDs also treat toxins that can make cows with mastitis extremely sick. By reducing excessive inflammation, recovery from disease occurs more quickly.



Administer by intramuscular injection

Dose for cattle: 1mL per 50 kg per day (10mL per 500kg cow) for one to three

days depending on severity and duration of symptoms

Withholding periods: Milk Nil

Meat 2 days

KetoMax is the NSAID recommended for treatment of mastitis whenever the concurrent antibiotic therapy has a withholding period of less than 84 hours for milk.



Administer by subcutaneous injection

Dose for cattle: 2.5mL per 100kg (12.5mL per 500kg cow) as a single treatment

Withholding Periods for cattle: Milk 84 hours

Meat 10 days

Both antibiotics and NSAIDs are restricted veterinary medicines and require veterinary authorisation.

KetoMax 15% and MeloxiVet are restricted veterinary medicines, registered pursuant to the ACVM Act 1997, Nos A11031 and A11234

