Overview and Expectations

David M. Dusek
Senior Staff Microbiologist
Policy, Evaluation and Licensing

Center for Veterinary Biologics
Veterinary Services
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
United States Department of Agriculture
Ames, Iowa USA

- Impetus for this meeting
- Expectations of meeting
- Quick review of potency testing of Veterinary Biological Products
Impetus for meeting

- Commitment to IAB’s to have meet on 3R’s
- Commitment by the Center for Veterinary Biologics (CVB) to reducing animal testing
- Provide forum for discussion of issues concerning animal testing
- Provide information on technology used for *in vitro* potency testing of Veterinary Biologicals
Impetus for meeting

- Provide information on new technology with potential for:
  - Potency testing of Veterinary Biologicals
  - Characterizing Veterinary Biologicals
  - Search and evaluating targets for development of new and improved Veterinary Biologicals
  - All of the above
Impetus for meeting

- Provide opportunity for the Center for Veterinary Biologics to propose for discussion changes in regulations being considered
- Provide for discussion purposes the direction the Center for Veterinary Biologics is considering in order to decrease animal testing by:
  - Changes in regulations
  - Encouragement of developmental work at the Center
Expectations

- Clear idea of the issues involved in animal testing of Veterinary Biologics
- Understanding of the tools and types of methods currently used for potency of Veterinary Biologicals and their advantages and disadvantages
Expectations

- An understanding of the alternatives to animal testing
- Appreciation for how the technologies discussed could be applied to testing and potency testing of Veterinary Biologics
- An understanding of how the proposed changes to the regulations governing potency testing of Veterinary Biologics will induce movement away from potency testing animals toward in vitro testing.
Veterinary Biologics

- Vaccines and bacterins
  - Live and inactivated
  - Virus, bacteria and other
- Immunomodulators
- Anti-toxins
- Toxoids
- Diagnostic kits
- Allergenic extracts
Veterinary Biologics requirements

- Must demonstrate efficacy in target species in order to be licensed
- Each serial (lot) of Licensed Biological Product must be tested for potency in order to be released for marketing
Veterinary Biologics requirements

- The potency test provides assurance the Licensed Veterinary Biological product will perform in a satisfactory manner for the purpose intended.
- The potency test measures some parameter correlated to efficacy
- Potency tests
  - Vaccination-challenge in target or surrogate species
  - Vaccination-serology or other in target or surrogate species
  - *in vitro* tests—An assay which measures some entity in the serial correlated to efficacy (frequently an ELISA method)
  - Quantification of live agent in live vaccines
Veterinary Biologics requirements

- Potency tests are performed on final product (bulk or final container)
- Approximately ½ of Licensed Veterinary Biologic Products are live vaccines and therefore are not potency tested in animals
- Our goal is to increase the fraction of products potency tested by *in vitro* methods.