

McDonald's Announces Antibiotic Use Policy for Beef

We're on a journey to build a better McDonald's. As one of the world's largest restaurant companies, we want to use our Scale for Good to positively impact issues important for people, animals and the planet.

McDonald's is one of the world's largest purchasers of beef. That's why we've worked with suppliers, farmers and ranchers, public health experts and veterinarians to develop a plan for reducing the overall use of medically important¹ antibiotics across our top 10 beef sourcing countries, representing more than 85% of our global beef supply.

We believe this is an ambitious, industry-leading commitment that will help to preserve the effectiveness of antibiotics for future generations.

¹As defined by the World Health Organization



A Strategic Approach

Partnering across the supply chain, McDonald's will reduce the use of antibiotics important to human medicine by taking the following approach:

Now

Measuring & Exploring Opportunities for Reduction

McDonald's is partnering with supplying beef producers in our top 10 beef sourcing markets —Australia, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Ireland, New Zealand, Poland, the U.K and the U.S.— to measure current antibiotic use and determine country-specific baselines. With this information, we will identify opportunities to refine, reduce and replace antibiotics.

2020

Established Reduction Goals

By the end of 2020, we will establish country-specific targets to reduce medically important antibiotics, across our top 10 beef sourcing markets, based on the data and findings from our on-the-ground partnerships.

2022 Onward

Reporting Progress

Starting in 2022, we will be reporting progress against antibiotic reduction targets across our top 10 beef sourcing markets.

These actions will accelerate our progress to do our part in protecting public and animal health and bolstering our commitment to McDonald's customers around the world.



A Legacy of Promoting Responsible Antibiotic Use

We are building on fifteen years of progress since McDonald's first developed a position on responsible antibiotics use in 2003. This new policy marks the latest step in our journey to drive responsible antibiotic use within the supply chain.

Recent milestones include:

In 2015, McDonald's announced our Vision for Antimicrobial Stewardship, which provided guidance to our producers and suppliers on responsible antibiotics practices.

In 2016, McDonald's USA completed its commitment to only serve chicken not treated with antibiotics important to human medicine, as defined by the World Health Organization, nearly a year ahead of schedule.

In 2017, McDonald's announced a responsible antibiotics policy for chicken in markets around the world.

Now, McDonald's is announcing an antibiotics policy for its beef supply chain which applies to the top 10 beef sourcing markets around the world, representing more than 85% of McDonald's global beef supply.

Starting in 2022, we will be reporting our progress on antibiotics reduction across our top 10 beef-producing markets: Australia, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Ireland, New Zealand, Poland, the U.K and the U.S.