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GRNZ Health and Welfare Fact Sheet

Kennel use of Medications and Treatment Records

Ensuring optimal Health and Welfare



What do the Health and Welfare Standards say about Treatment Records?

Section 8: Health:

8.6 Detailed records (including date, time, person prescribing, person administering, dosage) of all treatments administered to a greyhound including vaccinations, worming and veterinary medical treatments must be recorded and retained for two years. All such records, including a current vaccination certificate for each greyhound, issued, and signed by a veterinarian, must be provided on request to GRNZ and/or the RIU.

Treatment- means the management of disease or injury.

GRNZ Health and Welfare Standards set expectations that vaccinations, antiparasitics and medical treatments be recorded for any greyhound older than 16 months of age until the greyhound is retired from racing; however, trainers are encouraged to keep records of all greyhounds under their care.

The GRNZ Treatment Record Template can be used ([here](#)) or an alternative appropriate treatment record software, App, daily diary, spreadsheet or treatment book.

Do I need to record every time I use a flea preventative or an all-wormer?



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Yes. If all greyhounds in the kennel are being treated simultaneously, a blanket record for the medication used, listing the greyhounds' names and total number of treatments administered is sufficient.

Do I need to record multi-vitamins or mineral supplements?

In most cases, vitamins and mineral supplements don't need to be recorded if they are given by mouth as part of normal feeding and don't contain a prohibited substance. Injectable supplements must be recorded. It is good practice to maintain a record page of all vitamins or supplements provided to all greyhounds as 'on-going' or 'daily'.

What about complementary medicines?

If there is no registered product available for use in dogs in New Zealand, then a veterinarian may prescribe another medicine 'off label'.

If no such medicine is available, then alternative treatments should be discussed with your veterinarian. Veterinarians may prescribe human registered medications for greyhounds 'off-label'.

Greyhounds should only be administered medication that is either:

- authorised for use in the greyhound by a veterinarian; and/or
- registered for dogs for the specific use by the Ministry for Primary Industries under the Agricultural Compounds and Veterinary Medicines Act 1997.

See our policy on Complementary Medicines [here](#)

All 'off-label' or veterinary prescribed medications must be correctly labelled and recorded in the treatment record.

Storing medications and treatments

Most medicines and treatments will have directions on storage included in the labelling or packaging. Medications, treatments and supplements should be kept in their original container or packaging and retain the label when prescribed and affixed by a veterinarian.

It is important to follow label information about how the medicine should be stored (e.g. "refrigerate at or below 8°C"). If there are no specific instructions on the packet, it is best to keep medications, treatments and supplements in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight. Most medicines should be stored at below 25°C. Avoid leaving medicines and treatments in warm places such as in front of a window, where the temperature can rise quickly.

Participants should have a medication storage cabinet or cupboard, with medicines stored out of reach of children and animals.

Some medicines and treatments need to be stored in a fridge – if so, it will say so on the label. Liquid medicines and vials often require refrigeration, for example.



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Labelling requirements

The Rules will require that medications prescribed by a veterinarian must be clearly labelled.

Labelling must include the:

- type of medication prescribed
- strength of medication and dose prescribed
- frequency and route of administration;
- duration of treatment
- greyhound patient details
- name and address of the veterinarian who prescribed the medication.

All medications must be administered according to veterinary instruction and must remain in their original packaging which contains a veterinary label and/or the registration label of the medication.

Disposing of medicines and treatments

All expired medications must be appropriately disposed of. Throwing expired or unused medicines in the rubbish is not proper disposal. Putting chemicals into the drain or landfill can also damage the environment or contribute to antimicrobial resistance.

You can return all prescription medicines and supplements to your veterinarian or community pharmacy. The service is free, and they will dispose of them safely. This includes medicines for animals. Most medicines can be placed directly in the disposal bin provided at your community pharmacy. There are a small number of drugs (such as strong pain medications) that may need to be processed by the pharmacist, so if you are not sure it is best to let the veterinarian or pharmacist know what you are returning and ask their advice on disposal.