

# Recommended protocol for the administration of internal teat sealant at dry-off time for dairy cows

This protocol is recommended as part of a dry-off procedure.

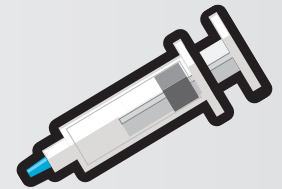


Réseau mammite  
Mastitis Network

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## BEST PRACTICES

1. Ensure the environment is clean. If needed, restrain the cow adequately.
2. Prepare the necessary equipment: teat disinfectant, nitrile gloves, clean towels, alcohol swabs, antibiotic tubes (if needed), and internal teat sealant tubes.
3. Mark the cow visibly to identify that she is a dry cow.



## TO ADMINISTER THE INTERNAL TEAT SEALANT:



### Step 1

Wear disposable gloves.



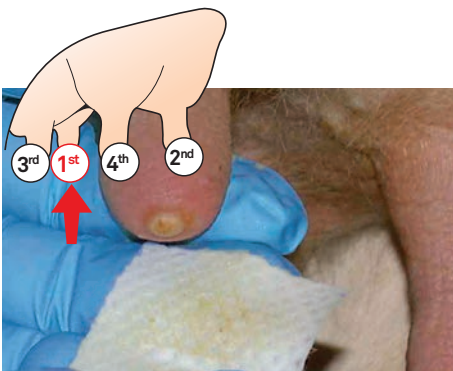
### Step 2

Completely milk out the quarters.



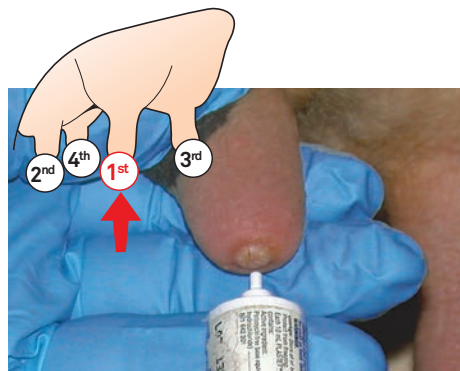
### Step 3

Disinfect teats using a teat disinfectant approved by Health Canada. Allow 30 seconds of contact time to elapse. Wipe teats with a clean paper or cloth milking towel. Carefully wipe the teat orifice, as for milking.



### Step 4

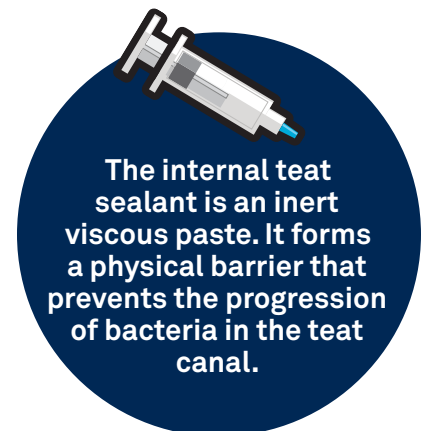
Disinfect the teats using an alcohol swab for each teat. Start with the two teats furthest away and progress to the two closest teats.



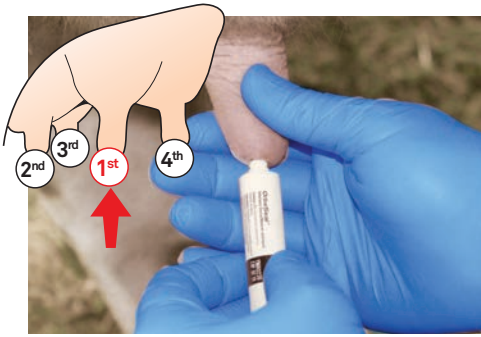
### Step 5

**If needed\***, administer an approved intramammary antibiotic according to the directions on the label. When administering, begin with the nearest teat, and finish with the furthest teat to avoid recontaminating the teat end.

\* See the Mastitis Network technical sheet on administration of intramammary treatment in dairy cattle

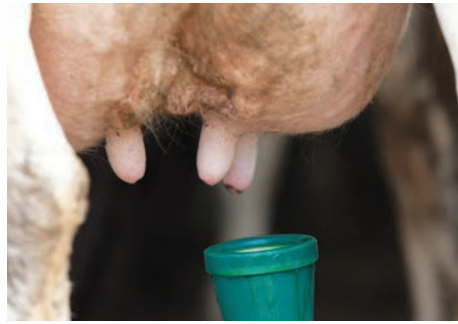


The internal teat sealant is an inert viscous paste. It forms a physical barrier that prevents the progression of bacteria in the teat canal.



## Step 6

As long as it does not interfere with the insertion of the entire content of the syringe, compress the base of the teat when injecting the internal teat sealant to prevent the sealant from migrating upwards into the cistern. Slowly inject the sealant in the teat. **Do not massage** the teat after injection. Again, start with the two closest teats to avoid contaminating the teat end.



## Step 7

Apply teat disinfectant, ensuring complete coverage.

## USAGE TIPS:

- Do not warm tubes in warm water, put them instead in your pocket if they are cold.
- Use a full teat sealant syringe per teat.
- It is recommended to compress the base of the teat, so the sealant stays in the teat only.
- Do not massage the teat after injection of the internal teat sealant.

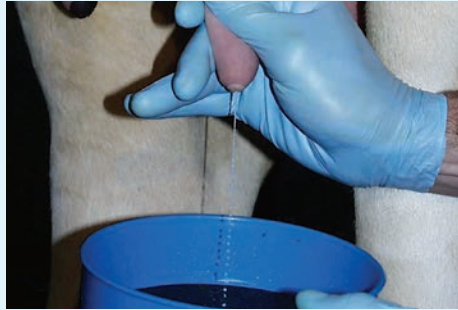
## TO REMOVE TEAT SEALANT:



## Step 1

After calving, remove the teat sealant manually by squeezing from the top to the bottom of the teat. Forestrip a minimum of 12 strips per teat.

**Do not use the milking machine to remove the teat sealant.**



## Step 2

For the first week after calving, forestrip each quarter to observe whether sealant residues are still present.

## DISCARDING MILK

- Milk containing teat sealant residues should be discarded. Studies have shown that in 90% of cows, teat sealant residues are completely removed within 3 to 7 days of calving.
- Ingestion of teat sealant residues by calves is safe and produces no adverse effects.
- Follow your provincial regulations regarding when, after calving, milk can be directed to the bulk tank for sale.

**Producers should always read and follow the label directions to carefully apply and remove the teat sealant. Alternatively, producers could follow written directions from their veterinarian.**



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This factsheet was developed  
in collaboration with Dairy  
Farmers of Canada

