IVMA/ICA PRECONDITIONING PROGRAMS

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (2026)

1. **Q.** Calves are worked and green-tagged only and sold before weaning. The second owner weans these calves 30 days and sells the calves. Can a Green Tag Preconditioning (PC) Certificate be issued?

A. No.

2. **Q.** Can Green Tag PC calves (accompanied by a Green Tag PC Certificate) purchased by a buyer be gold-tag preconditioned without starting the vaccination program over?

A. Yes. The key here is the buyer's Green Tag PC Certificate and the veterinarian verifies the tag numbers. The new owner must own the calves 60 days minimum.

3. **Q.** Calves are vaccinated and green-tagged, issued a 'vaccination certificate', but not an IVMA/ICA Green Tag Preconditioning Certificate, and then sold without weaning. The second owner weans the calves. Could they be vaccinated and gold-tagged?

A. No. They could be gold-tagged if they were issued a Green Tag PC Certificate which would require weaning prior to being sold. (See Q&A #2 above.)

4. **Q.** Can calves sold as preconditioned by a first owner be represented as "preconditioned" at a sale by the second owner?

A. Yes, if there is a valid PC certificate from previous owner, the tag numbers are verified by the veterinarian and the second owner has owned the cattle for at least 60 days. ➢ A new PC certificate must be completed to show the new owner information.

5. **Q.** Should calves that the veterinarian knows will not be "preconditioned" still be vaccinated and green-tagged?

A. Yes, at the veterinarian's discretion. The ***green tag*** only indicates that the calves have had science-based vaccinations and an external/internal parasite treatment regimen administered by a veterinarian who has verified properly dehorned and castrated as appropriate.

➢ The IVMA/ICA recommends green-tagged calves be "**Preconditioned" with all PC requirements met which includes weaning & feed ration and be <u>accompanied by a valid Preconditioning certificate</u>**.

6. **Q.** Can a producer purchase vaccines from their veterinarian and administer the first vaccine, then have the veterinarian administer the second vaccination and gold tag the calves?

A. No - This is in direct violation of this veterinarian-verified program and is not allowed. All vaccination and parasite control measures must be administered by a veterinarian or by clinic staff under "immediate" supervision of the veterinarian. All medical procedures must be veterinarian verified. Additional procedures performed by the owner can be added as a comment on the PC certificate.

7. Q. Why a Gold Tag Preconditioning program option?

A. Boostered vaccinations and an increased weaning interval are preferred by many buyers. These additional healthcare measures potentially improve the immunity and health status of the animal. As such it is a marketing tool to increase the price the producer receives.

8. **Q.** Can vaccines, dewormers, or "pour-ons" purchased by a producer be used by the veterinarian as part of the preconditioning program?

A. No. The veterinarian has no knowledge of the source of drugs or supplies, or how they were handled or stored. Therefore, efficacy could be a concern.

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