



Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) Update for External Stakeholders, December 2024

Over the past two years Canada has been preparing for a potential [foot and mouth disease \(FMD\)](#) outbreak through the development of two key components:

1. **The FMD Integrated Emergency Response Plan (IERP)**
2. **The Vaccination Implementation Support Structure (VISS)**

An integral part of this effort is working with industry stakeholders, including **national livestock associations, veterinarians, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), Agriculture Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) and Council of Chief Veterinary Officers (CCVO)**. These groups play an important role in ensuring readiness and effective disease control during an outbreak.

Progress to date:

- **Collaboration:** We are working with federal, provincial, territorial, and industry partners to clearly define roles and responsibilities, ensuring everyone knows what to do during an FMD outbreak.
- **Identifying Gaps:** Some gaps have been identified in how roles overlap during an outbreak. We are addressing these to ensure a smooth and coordinated response.
- **Vaccination Support:** The Vaccination Implementation Support Structure (VISS) has been developed to outline Canada's vaccination strategy, including protocols for different livestock species.

Next Steps:

- Finalizing key components of the FMD Integrated Emergency Response Plan (IERP) and Vaccination Implementation Support Structure (VISS), with ongoing integration of protocols and strategies.
- Actively working to address and clarify gaps in roles and responsibilities, ensuring better coordination and preparedness amongst all stakeholders.
- Continuing resource planning to ensure personnel, equipment, and operational support are in place for an effective, timely response during an outbreak.

Goal:

The goal is to complete and integrate the VISS as a key component within the FMD IERP, ensuring clear and actionable protocols for effective vaccination. From the evergreen FMD IERP document, and associated gaps list, stakeholders will have a clearer understanding of FMD planning and preparedness needs required for the immediate future. Addressing gaps will require striking specific working groups with broad stakeholder participation.