

Brought to you by:



## Portage-made Pfizer animal drug gets OK for expanded use

Saturday, February 20, 2010

By Alex Nixon | Kalamazoo Gazette

[anixon@kalamazoogazette.com](mailto:anixon@kalamazoogazette.com) or 269.388.2783

KALAMAZOO — An veterinary drug developed and manufactured in Kalamazoo County will see expanded use after government regulators granted additional approvals this week.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration this week said Pfizer Inc.'s Excede antibiotic could be used to treat respiratory infections in horses, the company said in a written statement. The Pfizer Animal Health drug, which is made at the company's manufacturing facility in Portage, was previously approved for use in cattle and swine.

"Excede ... has been used by veterinarians for many years with great success in cattle and swine," Dr. Thomas Lenz, senior director of Pfizer's Equine Veterinary Services, said in the statement. "Pfizer Animal Health is excited to be able to offer this safe and effective antibiotic for treatment in horses in just two doses for a full course of therapy."

Pfizer Animal Health said that its market research shows 25 percent of horse owners fail to administer the full course of traditional oral or injectable antibiotics. Excede, the company said, requires only two doses, injected four days apart by a veterinarian.

"Using Excede as recommended ensures optimal safety and efficacy for treatment," Lenz said. "A long-acting antimicrobial will allow equine veterinarians to achieve optimal compliance with minimal dosing, a true innovation compared to current therapeutic regimens."

Pfizer Animal Health, which has its veterinary medicine research and development division headquartered in downtown Kalamazoo, says it is investing about \$300 million annually in animal health product research and development.