

# Best Practices for Prescribing Antimicrobials using Telemedicine

The principles for prescribing antimicrobials via telemedicine should follow CVMA Guidelines for Antimicrobial Use. The [AVMA veterinary checklist for antimicrobial stewardship](#) is also a good resource for best practices.

Supportive evidence to show that antimicrobials are indicated include:

- Taking a complete medical history
- Clear photographs or video of lesions if present
- Recommending diagnostic tests prior to prescribing such as cytology, culture, fecal analysis or urinalysis when indicated

Cases refractory to treatment are higher risk for developing antimicrobial resistance and in person work up is indicated.

When supportive evidence is lacking or examination via telemedicine is not adequate to assess the underlying concern, antimicrobials should not be prescribed.