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Fluoroquinolone for *E coli* in Poultry

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The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved a water-soluble form of sarafloxacin hydrochloride for the treatment of *Escherichia coli* infections in flocks of chickens and turkeys raised for food. This is the first time any fluoroquinolone has been approved for animal use in the United States. The FDA is limiting distribution to areas of the country with intensive poultry farming.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention will add antibiotic susceptibility testing to its surveillance of *E coli* O157:H7 and *Salmonella* in five states. If fluoroquinolone-resistant bacteria arise, a federal interagency group will oversee the use of molecular methods to trace the origins and spread of the resistant bacteria.

FROM: Gough M. FDA approves fluoroquinolone for use in poultry. *Lancet* 1995;346:960.

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