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New portal to report pet-food issues went online today

By Jacques Von Lunen, Special to The Oregon...

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The **Food and Drug Administration** and the **National Institutes of Health** today launched a new Web site that allows pet owners to report issues related to pet food, among other features.

The new Web site, called the **Safety Reporting Portal**, makes it easier for owners to report adverse reactions of animals to foods, and for drug manufacturers to instantly report issues that become apparent during quality checks performed during the making of medications for pets.

The new portal includes these features:

- Reportable Food Registry: A more user-friendly way for producers to submit the food reports required by law. It collects reports from the food industry and public health officials regarding problems with food, including animal feed, that may cause serious health issues or death to humans or animals.
- Pet foods: Owners and veterinarians can report problems with pet foods and pet treats.
- Animal drugs: Animal-drug manufacturers can report adverse events related to their products.

The portal is not only used for pet-related issues: it also offers a way for biomedical researchers involved in human gene transfer trials to report adverse events. In the future, the system will cover other types of clinical trials and safety problems arising from products regulated by several other federal agencies.

The FDA says the site is a first step toward an electronic reporting system that will allow consumers and professionals to file a single report to multiple agencies.

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