



## Uniferon Best Practice Recommendation **Injection technique**

One of the most important factors to successful anaemia care is correct injection technique. If not carefully attended to, there is a risk that the iron may be dosed incorrectly or that effective entry of iron medication via tissue will be compromised. In both cases you will likely experience anaemia in the pig.

To ensure that all involved persons are aware of the proper injection techniques to help ensure optimal iron care, here are the recommendations from the Iron Expert Board.

### Recommended injection technique

**1. Choose injection site.** There are a number of possible injection sites on a piglet, and the recommended site can vary by country:

#### **Behind the ear:**

Hold the piglet's body towards you. Inject it in the neck, one or two inches behind the ear.

#### **In the ham:**

Injection should be intramuscular into the back of the ham. Place tension on the skin over the rear of the ham and inject to a depth of half an inch or slightly more.

#### **In the inguinal fold:**

Hold the piglet in its hind legs, so it hangs head down with its abdomen facing you. Inject it in the triangular skin fold where the thigh meets the abdomen.

- 2. Check that the injection site is clean and dry.** If the piglet's skin is dirty or wet, wipe it clean with cotton wool soaked in surgical spirit. Allow the skin to dry before injection
- 3. Use a small needle,** 20 gauge 5/8 inch that has been sterilized
- 4. Pull skin slightly forward before inserting the needle**
- 5. Quickly and firmly insert the needle**
- 6. Release the skin, give the injection, and remove the needle.** The skin then springs back in place, covers the hole in the muscle and seals the injected material in place, minimizing the risk of leakage
- 7. Change needles after every ten piglets or after each litter**

Sincerely  
The Uniferon Team

