



Our **UNCONDITIONAL** commitment

By Judson Vasconcelos, DVM, PhD – Merck Animal Health Consumer & Veterinary Affairs Lead

We live in a different kind of world today than our parents and grandparents. It's a fast-paced world where information is as close as our smart phones and important decisions made are often based on what others think or have experienced. When we want to buy a car or are looking for a restaurant to visit, we often go online to read reviews by experts – and from people just like us. Today's consumer also takes a close look at a brand's values. They want to know about a company's social conscience – the good a brand does in the world. They want to know we share their values and care about the things that are important to them. This also informs purchase decisions, employment decisions and overall brand loyalty.

At **Merck Animal Health**, we support hundreds of organizations, donate millions of dollars and allocate precious company time and resources to important causes. We've done this for years and will continue to do so, because it's the right thing to do. We make a big impact across the globe. As leaders in the industry, we manufacture and produce hundreds of vaccines and pharmaceuticals for many different types of animals. But, it's more than that. I'm very proud to work for **Merck Animal Health** because I know at the end of the day, we're thinking about our communities, we're thinking about helping customers and we're thinking about different things that go way above and beyond the transaction. We just don't always talk about it.

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The **Unconditional** program is our platform to make the world a better place. It is the platform **Merck Animal Health** is using to tell the great story we have to share about our commitment to important causes and organizations in communities in North America. The platform may be new, but our commitment to helping others is not – it's part of our DNA. Unconditional demonstrates our values as well as our purpose beyond the transaction. It highlights the good we do around the world.

We believe the world should be more **Unconditional** in thought and action. We believe we can learn a lot about unconditional trust, patience, love and forgiveness from the animals we help every day. And, we believe we can make the world a better place – and it starts with each of us.

Our **Unconditional** commitment is focused on six key areas:

1. Respect for the veterinary profession

Veterinarians are our heroes. They research, treat and serve the needs of animals and those who care for them unconditionally. They help bring love and joy to those who call their pets family, and peace of mind to those who ensure our food supply. At **Merck Animal Health**, we stand behind veterinarians and the veterinary profession and support their important contributions to animal health.

I am proud of Merck Animal Health's social commitment, values and how much we care about our employees and stakeholders.

2. Compassion for animal care and welfare

We are devoted and dedicated to animals. They bring us joy and sustain our lives. They make us better humans. With this devotion comes the responsibility to do our very best to ensure they are healthy and are treated humanely and with respect and dignity. From prevention to treatment to housing to handling, what's best for the animal is what's best for us.

3. Commitment for our customers

We don't see just customers. We see partners. Friends. Family. Tradition. We understand the overwhelming responsibility it takes to feed the world and the heart it takes to care for the world's pets, because we are a part of that world. Whether it's a veterinarian, a producer, a pet owner or anyone that looks after animals, we are committed to supporting their causes and commitments.

4. Passion for sustainability

The demand for animal protein is expected to double by 2050. **Merck Animal Health** is doing all we can today to continually innovate by developing new products and treatments and better business practices to help our customers meet the growing demands of the world. And we are doing this with great respect for the environment, from packaging to water preservation, and the carbon footprints left behind.

5. Development of our future leaders

We place great emphasis on developing and supporting our future leaders. We heavily invest in world-class training and resources for our people and devote time, resources and financial support to organizations and institutions where future animal health leaders grow and thrive. After all, we understand that the brightness of our future is only as bright as our future leaders.

6. Caring to make the world a better place

We care about our communities and all who live in them, around the corner and around the world. Not because it's easy, because it's the right thing to do. Whether to rid the world of rabies or to help our neighbors in times of trouble, we are there. We will always be there. Because we are all citizens of the world and we want to make the world a better place.

I am proud of **Merck Animal Health's** social commitment, values and how much we care about our employees and stakeholders. When we wake up in the morning, we don't think about "am I going to sell another bottle of medicine." We think about "am I going to help my customers be successful? Am I going to help society? What's our purpose and what else can we do?" That's a beautiful thing to see that we're going beyond just a pure financial transaction to take care of our communities, to take care of animals and to take care of our customers.