UNDERSTANDING LABELS | Meat and Poultry

This vetted list of criteria meets the definition of sustainable meat and poultry for the Healthy Food in Health Care program of Health Care Without Harm as well as Healthier Hospitals* a program of Practice Greenhealth (*formerly known as Healthier Hospitals Initiative).

- NOTE: “Natural” and “judicious use of antibiotics” are NOT robust or verifiable label claims

THIRD PARTY CERTIFICATIONS
Third-party audited, transparent guidelines, standard attributes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Certified Organic</th>
<th>Meat, Poultry</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| ![USDA Organic](image) | - Diet - 100% Organic Feed; no animal by-products  
- Antibiotic and Hormones - Never  
- Living Conditions – Must accommodate natural behavior  
- GMOs - No genetically modified livestock; No GM feed |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Animal Welfare Certifications</th>
<th>Meat, Poultry</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| ![Animal Welfare](image) | - Antibiotics - Administered for therapeutic purposes only  
- Hormones – Never  
- Living Conditions - Humane treatment of animals |

| Food Alliance Certified | Meat, Poultry,  
|-------------------------|---------------|
| ![Food Alliance](image) | - Antibiotics - Administered for therapeutic purposes only  
- Hormones - Never  
- Living Conditions - Humane livestock handling  
- GMOs- No genetically modified livestock |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>American Grassfed Certified</th>
<th>Beef, Bison, Goat, Lamb, Sheep</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| ![American Grassfed](image) | - Diet – Forage  
- Antibiotics and Hormones - Never  
- Living Conditions - Pasture-raised with no confinement  
- Origin - USA born and raised |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Global Animal Partnership</th>
<th>Beef, poultry, pork</th>
</tr>
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</table>
| ![Global Animal Partnership](image) | - Antibiotics – All steps prohibit the use of antibiotics in beef cattle and pigs; antibiotics may be used to treat sick chickens and turkeys as prescribed by a veterinarian.  
- Hormones - Growth hormones are prohibited in all steps.  
- Living Conditions – vary throughout the ‘5-Step’ Program, visit [www.globalanimalpartnership.org](http://www.globalanimalpartnership.org) for more details |
**Certified Responsible Antibiotic Use (CRAU) chicken standard**

- **Antibiotics** – All steps prohibit the use of antibiotics in beef cattle and pigs; antibiotics may be used to treat sick chickens and turkeys as prescribed by a veterinarian.

**GMO-Free Project Verified**

- **GMOs** - No genetically modified livestock; No GM feed

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**USDA-APPROVED LABEL CLAIMS**

The USDA allows the following label claims on meat and poultry products. Note that no third-party audit is required to use these claims without the Process Verified seal. For this reason we strongly encourage purchasers to seek products that also include the USDA Process Verified Shield.

### Raised without routine use of antibiotics

**Allowed label claim:**
- ✓ Raised without antibiotics
- ✓ No antibiotics administered
- ✓ Raised with therapeutic antibiotics only

- **Antibiotics** - Raised without the routine use of antibiotics
- **Living Conditions** - Does not guarantee specific living conditions

**Meat, Poultry**

### Raised without antibiotics

**Allowed label claim:**
- ✓ Never-Ever 3

- **Antibiotics** - Raised with no antibiotics ever
- **Living Conditions** - Does not guarantee specific living conditions

**Meat, Poultry**

### Grassfed

- **Diet** - Grass and forage are fed to the animals throughout their life
- **Living Conditions** - Does not guarantee specific living conditions

**Beef, Bison, Goat, Lamb, Sheep**

### Pasture-raised

- **Diet / Living Conditions** - Animals are raised on a pasture their entire lives, they eat food provided by nature and can forage for worms, bugs, grass, as their instincts dictate

**Beef, Poultry**

### No hormones added

- **Hormones** - Documentation showing no synthetic hormones have been used in raising the animals
- **Living Conditions** - Does not guarantee specific living conditions

**Beef, Lamb**

*Hormones are never allowed for pork or poultry*

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For more information, visit [www.HealthyFoodInHealthCare.org](http://www.HealthyFoodInHealthCare.org)