

# Treatment Strategies for Mild and Moderate Cases of Clinical Mastitis in Early Lactation

- Mastitis is the most common and costly health disorder in dairy cows. Its negative economic impacts include:
  - Discarded milk
  - Lost production
  - Reduced milk quality
  - Treatment costs
- Extended-duration therapy may be the most accepted mastitis treatment strategy because of its efficacy for some pathogens.
- However, the economic impact of extended treatments according to pathogenic prevalence has not been studied.

## RESOURCES

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## Dairy Science

## WEB

[DairyMGT.info](http://DairyMGT.info)

[Milkquality.wisc.edu](http://Milkquality.wisc.edu)

- The study developed a decision tree model to evaluate the economic impact of different durations treatment for the first case of mild or moderate clinical mastitis occurring in early lactation.
- The model was used to study scenarios of pathogens distributions and use of on-farm culture
  - 1) Culture-based therapy allowed for the most judicious use of antimicrobials
  - 2) Overall, the best strategies were:
    - a. Treat mastitis caused by gram-positive pathogens for 2 days.
    - b. Do not treat mastitis caused by gram-negative pathogens.
    - c. Do not treat mastitis when no pathogens are recovered in culture.

Excerpt from: Pinzón-Sánchez, C., V. E. Cabrera, and P. L. Ruegg. 2011. Decision tree analysis of treatment strategies for mild and moderate cases of clinical mastitis. *Journal of Dairy Science* 94:1873-1892.

