

## Redefining Preconditioning: the Past, Present and Future

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#### PAST

- Management focus primarily on health and vaccines;
  - "Couple of shots" before weaning (esp. 7-way)
- Little focus on nutrition
- Very little communication, thus establishing reputation

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#### PRESENT

- More communication, but still not great
- Moderate adoption of vaccines and affidavits
- Minimal acceptance of trace mineral programs
- Moderate cow management
- Ability to trace calves to origin to measure ranch performance

### Pre-conditioning will continue to change for years to come

#### FUTURE

- Increased accountability and transparency
- More nutrition, less drugs
- Implementation of new technologies
- Need for low-stress cattle handling
- Feedlot procurement tied to performance
- Pre-conditioning starts at pre-calving
  - Manage the life cycle of the cow
- Improved communication from gate to plate
- DNA markers for disease resistance

## CONCLUSION

- We're all in this together
- Change is always ongoing
- Consumers will drive the change
- It's a marathon...not a sprint