Example of Decision Tree for Euthanasia

- Animal is Identified as Sick or Unthrifty
  - Moribund or unfit for slaughter
  - Separated for treatment or observation
  - Medication withdrawal times observed; fit for transport
  - Unfit for transport

- Immediate euthanasia
- Treatment period (e.g. 3 days)
- Send for slaughter
- On-farm slaughter where permitted or immediate euthanasia

- No response to treatment; condition declining
  - Euthanize

- Positive response to treatment; condition improves
  - Continue treatment; return animal to group

Examples of criteria for euthanizing weanling or growing pigs (42):
- weak, unable to stand
- unable to eat or drink
- moderate to severe lameness
- fractured leg
- severely damaged digits
- infected tail, ear, or flank bites
- severe rectal prolapse (protruding or damaged)
- postnatal development of scrotal, inguinal, or umbilical hernia
- repaired hernia with abscessation, moderate swelling, or continued drainage
- severe body weight loss (20% or greater)
- severe diarrhea with dehydration (no response to treatment in 2 or more days)
- respiratory disease with difficult or laboured breathing (no response to treatment in 2 or more days)

Source: Developing on-farm euthanasia plans (42).