



Better use of antimicrobials in veterinary medicines EC Action

International conference
Farmers and Veterinarians together to tackle antimicrobial resistance
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EUROPE'S
FIGHT
AGAINST

ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE

WHAT IS ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE (AMR)?

Antimicrobials?

Substances used to treat a wide variety of infectious diseases in humans and animals. They:

- kill micro-organisms
- stop micro-organisms from growing and multiplying

Example: antibiotics



Antimicrobial resistance?

The ability of micro-organisms to withstand antimicrobial treatments.

Example: MRSA (meticillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*) commonly present on human skin and in mucous membranes



Why is resistance growing?

- Overuse of antibiotics
- Misuse of antibiotics
- Spread through various routes



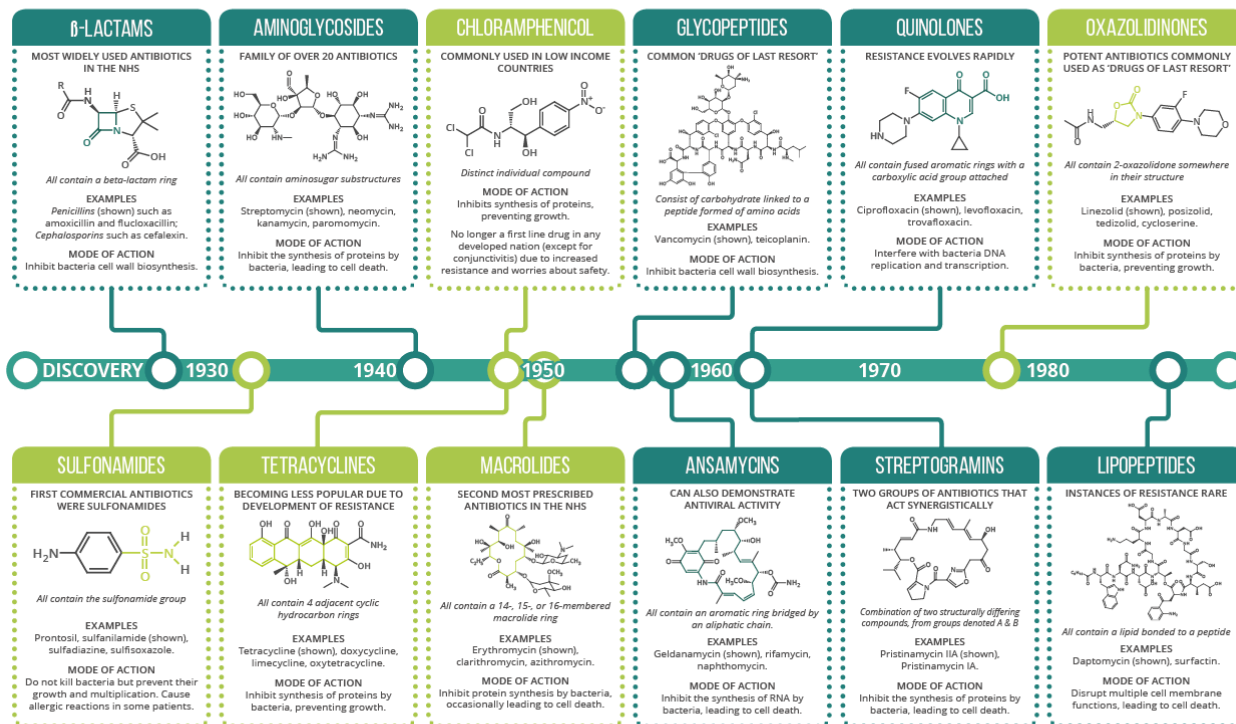
Effect of growing resistance?

- Treatment is rendered ineffective, which poses serious risk to public health

According to data from 2011, **25 000 patients die annually** as a result of infections caused by resistant bacteria in the EU. The costs incurred by drug resistant infections amount to an estimated **€1.5 billion** annually, due to increases in healthcare expenditure costs and productivity losses.

DIFFERENT CLASSES OF ANTIBIOTICS - AN OVERVIEW

Key: ● COMMONLY ACT AS BACTERIOSTATIC AGENTS, RESTRICTING GROWTH & REPRODUCTION ● COMMONLY ACT AS BACTERICIDAL AGENTS, CAUSING BACTERIAL CELL DEATH



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<http://www.compoundchem.com/2014/09/08/antibiotics/>

European
Commission

AMR a public health priority

Some actions taken so far:

- Ban on the use of AM for growth promotion (2006)
- Monitoring AMR and use of antimicrobials (EU agencies: EFSA, EMA, ECDC)
- International activities (TATFAR, Codex, OIE)
- Research

Scientific opinions, data on monitoring

Not enough, further action needed !

Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council
Action plan against the rising threats from Antimicrobial Resistance

AMR a public health priority!

COM (2011) 748

COM (2011) 748 – 17 Nov 2011

- 5 year action plan
- Holistic approach
- 7 key areas
- 12 concrete actions



The 12 actions

Human

Veterinary

1. Appropriate use

4. Prevention of infections

6. New antibiotics

9. Surveillance

8. International cooperation

11. Research & Innovation

12. Communication, education

2 & 3. Appropriate use

5. Prevention of infections

7. Need for new antibiotics

10. Surveillance

A. Appropriate use of antimicrobials

Action n°2: Strengthen the regulatory framework on veterinary medicines and on medicated feed

Milestones / Deadlines

- Revision of the Veterinary Medicines Legislation
 - Scientific risk-benefit analysis for granting of **marketing authorisations for veterinary antimicrobials**,
 - the prudent **use of antimicrobials**,
 - a legal tool to **preserve** certain antimicrobials for human use and
 - a requirement to gather information on the **use of veterinary antimicrobials**

➢ Proposal
Sept 2014
- Revision of the Medicated Feed Legislation
 - Provides a **prohibition on the preventive use** of antimicrobials included in medicated feed;
 - measures to increase the quality of medicated feed (**more precise dosage**) to avoid sub-therapeutic exposure and
 - establishes **thresholds for residual levels** of antimicrobials in ordinary compound feed

➢ Proposal
Sept 2014

➢ Oct 2015
- Verify implementation of prudent use measures
 - FVO questionnaire to MSs

A. Appropriate use of antimicrobials

Action n°3: Introduce recommendations for prudent use in veterinary medicine (1/2)

Milestones / Deadlines

- Use existing legal tools
 - Publication of Commission decisions (SPC), **Reflection Papers and associated recommendations (EMA)**
 - Initiate **referrals on veterinary medicines products**

➢ Completed

➢ Completed
- Scientific recommendations on use in veterinary sector of last resort antimicrobials for humans
 - Advice on last resort antimicrobials
 - Colistin

➢ Completed

A. Appropriate use of antimicrobials

Action n°3: Introduce recommendations for prudent use in veterinary medicine (2/2)

Milestones
/ Deadlines

- Reduce overall use of AM in veterinary medicine
 - **Commission Notice – Guidelines for prudent use** of antimicrobials in veterinary medicine (2015/C299/07) published 11 September 2015 ➤ Completed
 - http://ec.europa.eu/health/antimicrobial_resistance/docs/2015_prudent_use_guidelines_en.pdf ➤ Initiated
 - Completed
 - Completed
 - Completed



B. Prevent microbial infections & spread

Action n°5: Adoption of a proposal for an EU Animal Health Law

Milestones
/ Deadlines

- Animal Health legal framework based on "Prevention is better than cure"
 - Animal Health Law proposal for a regulation lays down responsibilities on:
 - operators to ensure the required level of animal health and **biosecurity**;
 - veterinary professionals to adopt effective measures to **prevent the spread of pathogens and to raise awareness**;
 - competent authorities to protect animal health, human health and the environment;
 - Proposal provides for an assessment, **prioritisation** and categorisation of diseases or disease agents
 - Proposal clarifies obligations to ensure **appropriate monitoring, surveillance and early detection of pathogens**



C. Develop new effective AM or alternatives for treatment

Action n°7: Promote efforts to analyse need for new antibiotics into veterinary medicine

Milestones
/ Deadlines

- Facilitate the **use of alternatives** that reduce need for treatment with AM
 - Completed
 - Proposal on veterinary medicinal products provides incentives for the development of new types of veterinary antimicrobials
- EC request to EFSA and EMA to evaluate **impact of measures** on the reduction of Need for Antimicrobials in Food-producing Animals
 - End 2016



E. Monitoring and surveillance

Action n°10: Strengthen surveillance systems on AMR and antimicrobial consumption in animal medicine

Milestones
/ Deadlines

- Harmonised surveillance systems
 - **ESVAC** project collects standardised overall sales data and national sales from MSs
 - 2012
 - Harmonisation **of surveillance and monitoring of AMR in the food chain**
 - Completed
 - Decision 2013/652/EU on harmonised monitoring and reporting on antimicrobial resistance in the food chain in the EU
 - Decision 2013/653/EU on financial aid towards a coordinated control plan for AMR monitoring
- Surveillance and monitoring in the Animal Health Law proposal
 - Completed
- EFSA, EMA and ECDC combined information
 - First Joint Interagency Antimicrobial Consumption and Resistance Analysis (JIACRA) Report



Concluding remarks

- Concrete actions have been taken both in the area of human and veterinary/Food/animal health area
- AMR remain a top priority for European Commission to lead at EU and global level
- Ongoing evaluation of the EC Action Plan – basis to decide on the follow-up
- Stakeholders' joint responsibility: implement respective actions plans



Thank you for your attention

