



Better Training for Safer Food *Initiative*

Antimicrobial Resistance One Health approach

**EU GUIDELINES ON AMR IN
VETERINARY MEDICINE**

BTSF

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Food safety

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COMMISSION NOTICE

Guidelines for the prudent use of antimicrobials in veterinary medicine

(2015/C 299/04)

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Scope and purpose

Purpose:

- practical guidance by development of national strategies
- promote prudent use AM in vet. sector
- contribute /complement control AMR in humans

Use in conjunction with:

- national guidelines
- stakeholder guidelines
- WHO, FAO, OIE standards/guidelines
- Council Recommendation 2002/77 on prudent use AB in humans

Guidelines → no legislation → additional to → not binding... but

Principles for the prudent use of antimicrobials

Use of AM → conform legislation (EU and national):

- According to authorization (SPC)
- Off-label use (cascade)
- Medicated premixes

Prudent use (appropriate/responsible) should result in:

- more **rational and targeted** use
- **overall reduction** of use

Any use → development AMR!

Ultimate objective → **reduce the need for antimicrobials** by **preventing** diseases



Principles for the prudent use of antimicrobials

When the use of antimicrobials is necessary

- **Veterinary** diagnostic, prescription and dispensation based on:
 - independent professional judgment
 - in accordance legal provisions and treatment guidelines
 - specific diagnosis: clinical examination, laboratory diagnosis, ST
- **Metaphylaxis:** need for treatment, clinical findings of disease in flock/herd
- **Routine** prophylaxis must be **avoided**. Prophylaxis must be reserved for **exceptional cases**
- **Herd / flock** medication should **be avoided**
- Antimicrobial **treatment:** narrow spectrum, single substances, according vet. prescription
- Special **restrictions:** use in food production animals, CIAs, off-label/cascade
- Alternative **disease control** strategies

Special considerations before using CIAs

Why?

- Critical for the prevention or treatment of life-threatening infections in humans
- To ensure the continued efficacy and minimise the development of resistance

Antimicrobial class		Criterion (Yes=●)				
CRITICALLY IMPORTANT ANTIMICROBIALS		C1	C2	P1	P2	P3
<i>HIGHEST PRIORITY</i>						
Highest Priority	Cephalosporins (3 rd , 4 th and 5 th generation)	●	●	●	●	●
	Glycopeptides	●	●	●	●	●
	Macrolides and ketolides	●	●	●	●	●
	Polymyxins	●	●	●	●	●
	Quinolones	●	●	●	●	●
<i>HIGH PRIORITY</i>						
Critically Important	Aminoglycosides	●	●		●	●
	Ansamycins	●	●	●	●	
	Carbapenems and other penems	●	●	●	●	
	Glycylcyclines	●	●	●		
	Lipopeptides	●	●	●		
	Monobactams	●	●	●		
	Oxazolidinones	●	●	●		
	Penicillins (natural, aminopenicillins, and antipseudomonal)	●	●		●	●
	Phosphonic acid derivatives	●	●	●	●	
	Drugs used solely to treat tuberculosis or other mycobacterial diseases	●	●	●	●	

Considerations:

- Use only when a veterinarian has assessed that available non-CIAs are not effective:
 - AST
 - Epidemiological data
- Off-label (cascade) → limitations: ethical/public health concerns

Oral application of antimicrobials to groups of animals in feed and drinking water

Considerations:

- Individual treatment of affected animals preferred (injectables) to mass treatment
- Veterinary prescription required → medicated feed contains a premix!
- Not prophylactic treatment: evidence of disease/infections needed
- Use according SPC and veterinary prescription: dosage and duration treatment
- Monitoring and documentation of use
- Homogeneity of distribution (ensure therapeutic dose)
- Off-label (cascade) limited to exceptional cases
- Clean and restricted storage



Responsibilities

Multidisciplinary responsibility: authorities and stakeholders

1. Prescriber
2. Administrator of the antimicrobial
3. Pharmaceutical industry, pharmacists, retailers, wholesalers
4. Feed business operators
5. Food business operators
6. Veterinary faculties and agriculture schools
7. Veterinary professional associations
8. Industry stakeholder associations
9. Farmers' associations
10. Competent authorities
11. Laboratories



The primary responsibility: prescriber and person administering the antimicrobial

Responsabilities

The prescriber

- Veterinarian familiar with herd/flock/treated animals
- independent decision to avoid conflict of interest
 - limit financial incentives vet/pharma industry or supplier AM
 - contract /arrangements vet/farmer
- Prescription based on
 - diagnosis/ clinical examination
 - AST
 - national/regional recommendations (protocols)

RECETA OFICIAL DE ESTUPEFACIENTES (solo para el propietario o responsable del animal)		COLEGIO DE:
PRESCRIPCIÓN: (Consignar el medicamento - forma farmacéutica, vía de administración, dosis por unidad y unidades por animal) Duración del tratamiento: _____ Posología: _____ Tiempo de espera: _____ Número envases / unidades (en letra): _____		PROPIETARIO: Nombre y apellidos: _____ Dirección: _____ Especie animal: _____ Identificación individual del animal: _____ Código identificación animal / lote / de explotación: _____
IDENTIFICACIÓN ENTIDAD DISTRIBUIDORA	ADMINISTRACIÓN COMPETENTE	VETERINARIO: Nombre y apellidos: _____ Dirección: _____ Teléfono: _____ Fecha de la prescripción: ____ / ____ / ____ Firma: _____ FARMACIA TITULAR (Sello de identificación, para la dispensación y firma)
La validez de esta receta expira a los 10 días naturales de la fecha de prescripción.	CÓDIGO DE RECETA: CÓDIGO DE BARRAS	

- Always consider the risk of AMR (single substance, alternative solutions)
- Provide correct information to the administrator

Responsabilities

The administrator

Veterinarian, owner, farmer, staff

- Obtain AM from **authorised sources** and with **veterinary prescription**
- Always follow the prescriber's instructions, the leaflet/SPC
required dosage
duration treatment
schedule
- **Monitor animals to** ensure ingest **adequate/full quantity of medicated feed**
(therapeutic dose to avoid under-dosage)
- **Cooperate with the veterinarian** who regularly visits the animals



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Source photo: FAO/Giulio Napolitano

Responsibilities

Pharmaceutical industry, pharmacists, retailers and wholesalers

- Supply only by valid prescription
- no commercial advertising and publicity addressed to non-veterinarians.
- package size and the strength of formulations adapted to the approved indications

Feed business operators

- Comply legal requirements: hygiene, GMP, formulation, ingredients
- Medicated feed:
 - Produced only from authorised VMP in line with a vet. prescription
 - Appropriate labelling
 - supply to end user on presentation of valid veterinary prescription

Food business operators

- No misleading claims (i.e. “antibiotic-free”)

Favour food produced in systems applying prudent use principles

Responsibilities

Veterinary faculties and agriculture schools

Include AMR, prudent use, alternatives, prevention in programmes

Industry stakeholder associations

Promote quality schemes

Veterinary professional associations

Guidelines, training

Farmers' associations

Training, guidelines on AMR, prevention

Competent authorities (separate chapter)

Pro-active approach:

**monitoring, surveillance
enforcement, sanctions**

Laboratories

Quality assurance, information

Awareness raising

Prudent use campaigns

Farmers
veterinarians
other professionals in animal production
pet owners
consumers

(National) guidelines and education programmes

correct treatment
appropriate use
ways to prevent and reduce transmission of pathogens
infection control and hygiene measures.



Prevention and reducing the need to use antimicrobials - CONCLUSION

The prevention of infection is the **best way to reach reduction and minimise the need to use antimicrobials:**

- Implementing hygiene and biosecurity measures
- Protocols for infectious disease prevention, infection control and hygiene (available at the farm!)
- Improving husbandry systems
- Integrated production systems: avoid mixing animals, transport
- Avoid stress
- Quality feed and water
- Animal health control programs
- Alternatives to AM

PREVENTION IS BETTER THAN CURE!



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AENOR INTERNACIONAL

6, Genova street. 28004. Madrid, SPAIN

Tel: +34 91 432 61 25

Mail: 20169607_amr@aenor.com

www.btsf-aenor.com



Better Training for Safer Food BTSF

• *European Commission
Consumers, Health, Agriculture and Food Executive Agency
DRB A3/042
L-2920 Luxembourg*