



European Platform for the Responsible Use of Medicines in Animals

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**European Antibiotic Awareness Day 2015:
EPRUMA calls on the EU institutions to adopt a science-based antibiotic
policy from a One-Health perspective**

Brussels, 18 November 2015 – EPRUMA reiterates its commitment to promoting the Responsible Use of veterinary medicines, including antibiotics, and calls on the EU institutions to adopt a science-based antibiotic policy from a One-Health approach.

EPRUMA appreciates the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control's (ECDC) sustained efforts to promote the Responsible Use of antibiotics in human medicine through [the European Antibiotic Awareness Day](#). We encourage the ECDC to work with EPRUMA and other stakeholders to continue to enlarge the current scope of European Antibiotic Awareness Day to cover both human and veterinary antibiotic use from a One-Health perspective.

EPRUMA partners firmly believe that Responsible Use should be an important part of the EU's antibiotic strategy as Responsible Use complements policy and legislation by helping maintain the efficacy of antibiotics both in human and animal health.

EPRUMA requests the European Institutions to secure the provision of sufficient science-based resources for the development of programmes and tools to prevent and control diseases on the ground in both humans and animals. This includes supporting knowledge transfer and training opportunities for all health professionals, paraprofessionals and other relevant operators on the Responsible Use of antibiotics through EU 'train the trainer' programmes, as well as targeted awareness campaigns. EPRUMA also asks the EU Institutions to provide the right legal framework for the provision of innovative veterinary medicines, including antibiotics, as well as veterinary diagnostics, to help treat disease efficiently.

EPRUMA advocates transparency on the use of antibiotics, including a holistic approach to disease prevention and control through concepts such as biosecurity, good housing and ventilation, hygiene, appropriate nutrition, regular monitoring of health and welfare, animal health planning and vaccination. EPRUMA seeks to ensure that antibiotics are used responsibly: under veterinary care, with diagnostics guiding the antibiotic choice, and according to licensing conditions.

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STATEMENT

EPRUMA has recently published a brochure entitled 'Best-practice for the use of antibiotics in food-producing animals – Reaching for the next level', explaining key concepts on the Responsible Use of antibiotics at farm level.

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Notes for editors:

EPRUMA is a multi-stakeholder platform linking best practice with animal health and public health. It aims to ensure best practice through responsible use of medicines in the prevention and control of animal diseases.

EPRUMA partners:

- COPA-COGECA: European Farmers and Agri-Cooperatives
- EGGVP: European Group for Generic Veterinary Products
- EISA: European Initiative for Sustainable Development in Agriculture
- EMVD: European Manufacturers of Veterinary Diagnostics
- FECAVA: Federation of European Companion Animal Veterinary Associations
- FEFAC: European Feed Manufacturers Federation
- FESASS: European Federation for Animal Health and Sanitary Security
- FVE: Federation of Veterinarians of Europe
- IFAH-EUROPE: International Federation for Animal Health-Europe
- PGEU: Pharmaceutical Group of the European Union

Associate partners (National Responsible Use platforms):

- AMCRA: Centre for Expertise on Antimicrobial Consumption and Resistance in Animals (Belgium)
- RUMA: Responsible Use of Medicines in Agriculture Alliance (United Kingdom)
- SDa: Veterinary Medicines Authority (The Netherlands)
- VETRESPONSABLE: Platform for the Responsible Use of Medicines in Animals (Spain)

The EPRUMA 'Best-practice framework for the use of antibiotics in food-producing animals – Reaching for the next level' can be downloaded from the EPRUMA website.

URL: <http://www.epruma.eu/publications/brochures.html>

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