



Benefits of sharing best practices on responsible use

Dr Koen Van Dyck

Head of Unit - DG Health and Food Safety

EPRUMA workshop on responsible use of veterinary medicines

Brussels - 13 October 2016

Appropriate use of antimicrobials in veterinary medicine: Commission guidelines

- Reduce overall use of antimicrobials in veterinary medicine
 - **Commission Notice – Guidelines for prudent use of antimicrobials in veterinary medicine (2015/C299/07) published 11 September 2015**

http://ec.europa.eu/health/antimicrobial_resistance/docs/2015_prudent_use_guidelines_en.pdf

- Practical guideline for Member States in development and implementation of strategies to promote prudent use of antimicrobials in veterinary medicine
- Addressed to Member States, some chapters or measures addressed to industry, farmers, veterinarians, associations, academia



Prudent use of antimicrobials in animals: EC fact finding missions

- DG SANTE aims to:
 - **provide a comprehensive overview of the efforts being made in Member States, Iceland, Norway and Switzerland to ensure the prudent use of antimicrobials in animals**
 - **Identify and share good practices and key challenges**
- Based on responses to a questionnaire sent in Sept. 2015 and fact-finding missions to 16 Member States (9 in 2016 – 6 have been completed so far - and 7 in 2017)
- Overview reports published: March 2017 and March 2018. Individual reports (subject to agreement) – DK so far.
- BTSF and other activities to disseminate information to follow

Prudent use of antimicrobials in animals: EC fact finding missions (1/3)

- Countries reporting the greatest decrease or relatively low use of antimicrobials in animals have highlighted:
 - The benefits of **strong cooperation** between official, professional and industry organisations;
 - An emphasis on veterinarians providing **comprehensive, contracted herd health care advice** – some de-coupled prescription and sales of antimicrobials;
 - The importance of **rules, guidance and awareness raising activities** to support practices to reduce the use of antimicrobials and to encourage their prudent use;
 - The **role of targets, effective monitoring (and benchmarking)** of antimicrobial use and control actions to ensure the policies are implemented

Prudent use of antimicrobials in animals: EC fact finding missions (2/3)

- Critically Important Antimicrobials (CIAs) are generally considered as **last choice** and their use should be justified (e.g. susceptibility tests)
- Several countries indicated that while it may be technically feasible to significantly cut or eliminate the use of antimicrobials in certain sectors to do so would be **economically challenging and have potential implications for animal welfare.**
- some evidence between levels of antimicrobial resistance and reduction in the use of antimicrobials

Prudent use of antimicrobials in animals: EC fact finding missions (3/3)

- A number of **challenges** have also been highlighted linked to:
 - the financial and technical issues related to the **development of the comprehensive systems to monitor** the use of antimicrobials at the level of species, farm and vet;
 - The **off-label use** of certain antimicrobials (e.g. where higher doses or longer treatment duration than specified in the SPC are needed);
 - Overcoming **animal owners' expectations and demands for antimicrobials** – even when their use is not appropriate;
 - The development of policies for **companion animals** and relatively minor sectors where antimicrobials are often used

Commission proposal on veterinary medicines – *main provisions addressing AMR*

- Possibility to **reserve certain antimicrobials** for the treatment of human infections only
- **Compulsory** collection of data on sales and use of veterinary antimicrobials
- Careful **scientific benefit-risk assessment** in marketing authorisation + possible post-authorisation requirements
- **Strengthened prescription requirements**, advertising rules and limitations for retailing by veterinarians
- **Incentives** for development of new antimicrobials
- **Restrictions** on off-label use
- No authorisation of antimicrobials as growth promoters

Commission proposal on medicated feed – *main provisions addressing AMR*

- Ban on the use of antimicrobials via medicated feed for preventive treatment or as a growth promoter
- The mandatory prescription for medicated feed requires the diagnosis of a disease by the person issuing the prescription
- Limitation of the duration of a treatment and of the validity of the prescription
- EU-wide residue limits (carry-over) for veterinary medicines in ordinary feed at a level that excludes a significant AMR risk

Evaluation current EC action plan against AMR

Objectives:

- To assess the impact of the achievements on the management and control of AMR in the EU and enable the Commission to better identify what new or additional measures should be taken in the medium and long term strategy to combat AMR

Main findings:

- Action plan acted as a symbol of political commitment with clear added value
- Great achievements: monitoring/surveillance and R&D
- But clear need to pursue the efforts in supporting MS and reinforcing the One-Health approach

EU action against AMR: next steps

Making the EU a best practice region

- Supporting and assisting Member States developing national action plans
- Strengthen surveillance and monitoring
- Increasing public awareness on AMR

Stimulating research & innovation

- Exploring new business models & incentives to sustain investment
- Stimulate research on new antimicrobial drugs, rapid-diagnostic tests, vaccines and alternatives

Shaping global action outside the EU

- Partnering with WHO, OIE and FAO
- Supporting 3rd countries
- Pursuing high-level political commitment; UN, G7, G20

