Regulation and current situation of the use of antimicrobial agents in feed in the EU

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OUTLINE

1. Definitions

2. Antimicrobials as veterinary medicines

3. Medicated feed

4. Coccidostats and histomonostats

5. Tackling AMR in the EU

6. EFSA AMR activities
OUTLINE

Definitions
ANTIMICROBIAL IS

An active substance of synthetic or natural origin which destroys microorganisms, suppresses their growth or their ability to reproduce after administration for therapeutic indications in animals or humans. In this context, antivirals, antiparasitics (e.g. coccidiostats) and disinfectants are excluded from the definition (EMA, 2014).

They fall under the definition of medicinal products
Antimicrobials as veterinary medicines
VETERINARY MEDICINES

Prevent and treat diseases of animals whilst ensuring adequate health protection and guaranteeing the well functioning of the internal market

- strengthens the EU action to fight antimicrobial resistance
  - ban on preventive use of antibiotics in groups of animals
  - Possibility to reserve certain antimicrobials for humans only
  - obligation for Member States to collect data on the sale and use of antimicrobials
MEDICATED FEED

Mixture of animal food and veterinary medicine produced under controlled conditions, and requires a veterinary prescription. It is one of the oral routes to administer veterinary medicines to animals.

- EU actions to fight antimicrobial resistance by
  - Banning the use of antimicrobials in medicated feed for prophylaxis and growth promotion
  - Restricting the veterinary prescriptions with antimicrobials
- Creation of a legal framework for safe manufacturing and distribution of medicated feed for pets
TARGETS

- Promoting a **more prudent and responsible use** of antimicrobials
- **Fighting antimicrobial resistance** among animals and preventing the spread of antibiotic-resistant bacteria via the food chain
- **More innovation** and **better availability** of veterinary medicines and medicated pet food
- **Reducing the administrative burden** for pharmaceutical and feed companies and strengthening the internal market
Coccidiostats and histomonostats
REGULATION (EC) NO 1831/2003

Substances, micro-organisms or preparations, other than feed material and premixtures intentionally added to feed or water in order to:

a) Favourably affect the characteristics of feed, animal products and the colour of ornamental fish and birds

b) Satisfy the nutritional needs of animals

c) Favourably affect animal production, performance or welfare or the environmental consequences of animal production

d) Have a coccidiostat or histomonostatic effect
CONDITIONS FOR AUTHORISATION

The feed additive shall not:

a) have an adverse effect on animal health, human health or the environment,

b) be presented in a manner which may mislead the user,

c) harm the consumer by impairing the distinctive features of animal products or mislead the consumer with regard to the distinctive features of animal products.
OUTLINE

Tackling AMR in the EU
Strains of microorganisms intended for use as additives (and as production strain) shall not contribute further to the reservoir of antibiotic resistance genes already present in the gut flora of animals and the environment.

All strains of bacteria shall be tested for resistance to antibiotics in use in human and veterinary medicine. Where resistance is detected, its genetic basis should be identified and the nature of the resistance elucidated.
OUTLINE

6. EFSA AMR activities
European Union Summary Report on AMR (annually)

- EU Member States
- Other European countries

Human cases of food-borne infection:
- *Salmonella*
- *Campylobacter*

**EU Summary Report on AMR**

Zoonotic bacteria:
- *Salmonella*
- *Campylobacter*

Indicator bacteria:
- *E. coli (non-pathogenic)*
- *E. faecium, E. faecalis*

Other bacteria:
- *MRSA*
EC Mandate to EFSA and EMA for a joint Scientific Opinion on measures to reduce the need to use antimicrobial agents in animal husbandry in the European Union, and the resulting impact on food safety

- Adopted by EFSA BIOHAZ Panel and EMA CVMP in December 2016
- Published on 24 January 2017
What can we do?

reduce
the use of antimicrobials

replace
antimicrobials with alternative treatments

rethink
the livestock production system
What can we do?

reduce
the use of antimicrobials

Set targets

Increase responsibility of veterinarians

Use antimicrobials only when needed
What can we do?

- Consider alternatives.
- Research new alternatives.
- Replace antimicrobials with alternative treatments.
- Develop a EU legal framework.
What can we do?

Improve prevention and control of diseases in animals

Consider alternative farming systems.

Offer education

Rethink the livestock production system
Infographic
Thank you for your attention!

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