Tackling antimicrobial resistance to safeguard tomorrow’s health

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR): we are all concerned

Some infections and diseases in animals, humans, and plants can be treated thanks to antimicrobials. Resistance to these medicines endangers our health and has become a major concern worldwide.

Although AMR is a natural phenomenon, it can be greatly accelerated by the improper use of antimicrobials in different sectors.

It takes over 10 years and 1 billion dollars to develop a new antibiotic.

Safeguarding our current options is crucial

The animal health sector keeps moving towards a more responsible use of antimicrobials

Key findings of the 7th Annual Report on Antimicrobial Agents Intended for Use in Animals

Global antimicrobial use in animals has declined by 13% in 3 years

The use of antimicrobials critical to human health in animals is low

<20% of antimicrobials used in animals in 2019 were of highest priority and of critical importance for human health. We must preserve their efficacy by using them in a sustainable way.

The use of antimicrobials for growth promotion is no longer a practice in almost 3/4 of participating countries

In 2021

107 countries do not use antimicrobials for growth promotion

41 countries use antimicrobials for growth promotion

Growth promotion means using antimicrobials in healthy animals to boost productivity. Some countries have implemented legislative and regulatory measures to phase out this practice.

Antimicrobial use is expressed in mg/kg of animal biomass. It is determined by adjusting the quantity of antimicrobial agents reported (mg) by the live domestic animal biomass (kg) each year. This indicator can be compared between regions and over time.

Data reported by the 80 participating countries that consistently provided quantitative information on antimicrobials in animals from 2017 to 2019.
Monitoring the use of antimicrobials to foster better practices

The World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) is the global leader in the fight against AMR in animals. As part of its efforts, the Organisation has spearheaded the development of a global database on antimicrobial agents intended for use in animals.

**Type of reporting**

Every year, we invite countries to participate in our data collection on antimicrobial agents intended for use in animals.

**Baseline data designed to allow all countries to respond**

**Quantitative Data**

Reporting options represent increased levels of detail

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* Type of use: veterinary medical use or growth promotion  
** Groups of animals: ‘terrestrial food-producing animals’, ‘aquatic food-producing animals’ or ‘non-food-producing animals’

**Sustained engagement from our Members**

The data collection process has seen an overall increased engagement from countries, who have improved their capacities to provide more detailed information over time.

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<td>157</td>
<td>157</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<th>Participating countries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>83</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>116</td>
<td>118</td>
</tr>
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<td>133</td>
<td>126</td>
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<td>121</td>
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The most complete set of data on antimicrobials in animals.

A report has been published every year since 2016 to provide an analysis for the global understanding of the use of antimicrobials in the animal health sector.

**The 7th annual report provides an analysis of data from 2019 covering:**

70% of the world’s domestic animal biomass

**ANIMUSE Global Database**

amu.woah.org

To go further in supporting Member’s action in monitoring the use of antimicrobials, the global database has recently been fully digitalised into an online platform: ANIMUSE. Its benefits:

- Better understanding and monitoring of antimicrobial use
- Easier access to data
- Faster and standardised analysis and reporting
- Information to guide decisions at national level

Collecting data on antimicrobial use in animals is a cornerstone of preserving the efficacy of these crucial medicines for both human and animal health

World Organisation for Animal Health  
Founded as OIE