EFSA-EMA Joint Scientific Opinion

on the Reduction Of the Need to use Antimicrobials in Food-producing Animals (RONAFA)

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Conference Combating Antimicrobial Resistance
15 May 2017, Reykjavík, Iceland
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
THE MANDATE

Terms of Reference, as clarified with the EC

**ToR 1**
Review measures to reduce the **use** of AM

**ToR 2**
Assess the impact of such measures on AMR

**ToR 3**
Review measures to reduce the **need to use** AM

**ToR 4**
Assess the impact of such measures on AMR

**ToR 5**
Recommend options to reduce antimicrobial use in EU
PARTIES INVOLVED

AHAW Panel

BIOHAZ Panel

FEEDAP Panel

Joint WG RONAFA

CVMP

Antimicrobials WP

Immunologicals WP

EU stakeholders providing information (FVE, a.v.e.c., COPA-COGECA, EUROCOMMERCE, FOODDRINKEUROPE, UECBV, Member States)
APPRAOCH

What was done

1. Critical review of measures to reduce use/need of AM
   ■ Starting point: EC prudent use guidelines

   Based on scientific literature, official reports, information from MSs, information from experts (hearing experts) and stakeholders (several questionnaires), etc.
What was done

2. Assessment of the impact of measures on AMR in bacteria from food-producing animals and food

A difficult task:
- Delay between implementation and impact
- Need to have proper monitoring for several years
- Different measures together: impact due to what?
- etc.

➢ Not possible to quantify impact, only qualitative assessment was done
RECOMMENDATIONS

List of recommended options

- 11 ‘options’ are recommended for consideration:
  - what can be done
  - advantages and disadvantages

- No measure alone sufficient to have an impact on AMR!

- Options to be implemented in an integrated approach, and according to the local circumstances

  - Option 1: Development of national strategies implemented through action plans:
    - One health – education – monitoring – prudent use –
    - limiting use CIA – animal disease prevention – research –
    - alternatives…
RECOMMENDATIONS

What can we do?

reduce
the use of antimicrobials

replace
antimicrobials with alternative treatments

rethink
the livestock production system
RECOMMENDATIONS

What can we do?

- Targets to reduce overall use
- Targets at national level (ideally at species/farm level if consumption data allow)

- Phase out preventive use
- Reduce metaphylactic use

reduce
the use of antimicrobials

Set targets

Increase responsibility of veterinarians

Use antimicrobials only when needed
RECOMMENDATIONS

What can we do?

- *E.g.* organic acids, probiotics, bacteriophages, teat sealants…

- Not enough knowledge on current alternatives

- Need to develop new ones

- Food additives or veterinary medicinal products?

- Need clarity to make development of new products attractive
What can we do?

- Improve biosecurity, housing, nutrition, stress control etc.
- Investigate farming systems with high use of antimicrobials
- Sustainable with reduced use?
- Alternatives?
- Improve education and awareness on use and AMR
What can we do?

reduce
the use of antimicrobials

replace
antimicrobials with alternative treatments

rethink
the livestock production system
Monitoring

- To develop harmonised systems for monitoring antimicrobial use and AMR in humans, food-producing animals and food
- Ideally at farm/species/production stage levels

- To follow the situation
- To observe the impact of measures applied
- To identify the need for action
- To benchmark/compare use in farms and animal species
Outcomes indicators

- New EC joint mandate to ECDC, EFSA and EMA for an opinion on “a list of outcome indicators as regards surveillance of AMR and antimicrobial consumption in humans and food-producing animals”

**Deadline**
30 September 2017
Scientific opinion:

Infographic:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION