



European Platform for the Responsible Use of Medicines in Animals

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**EPRUMA welcomes the EFSA/ECDC report on antimicrobial resistance and re-emphasises its commitment to the responsible use of veterinary medicines**

**Brussels, 12 February 2016** – EPRUMA is happy to note that the trend analyses observed in the latest joint EFSA/ECDC EU-wide report on antimicrobial resistance show that in several Member States efforts to stabilise and reduce absolute levels of resistance are delivering. EPRUMA partners' firm commitment to the responsible use of veterinary medicines, including antibiotics, is making a difference on the ground.

According to EPRUMA, responsible use is based on a holistic approach of minimising disease through a wide choice of tools such as biosecurity, good housing and ventilation, good hygiene, appropriate nutrition and robust animals, regular monitoring of animal health and welfare, animal health planning, use of diagnostics, vaccination and using and maintaining the pharmacovigilance system when necessary, as well as the use of veterinary medicines, as required by law.

EPRUMA firmly supports the principle of transparency, e.g. data-collection on use and monitoring resistance to further prioritise actions and maximise their impact on the leading parameter, antibiotic resistance level. EPRUMA seeks to ensure that antibiotics are used responsibly: under veterinary care, according to licensing conditions, and with diagnostics guiding the antibiotic choice as much as possible.

Antibiotics should be used responsibly both in human and animal health, for a truly One-Health perspective. EPRUMA advocates that antibiotics should be used 'As little as possible, as much as necessary' and recently published an updated version of its 'Best-practice framework for the use of antibiotics in food-producing animals' providing recommendations to ensure good animal health and welfare. This is available on [www.epruma.eu](http://www.epruma.eu)

- ENDS -

**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

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- 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)

Key EPRUMA publication:

- Best-practice framework for the use of antibiotics in food-producing animals (2008): <http://www.epruma.eu/component/downloads/downloads/95.html> (available in 12 languages)
- Best-practice framework for the use of antibiotics in food-producing animals – Reaching for the next level (2015): <http://www.epruma.eu/publications/brochures.html>

EFSA/ECDC:

The European Union summary report on antimicrobial resistance in zoonotic and indicator bacteria from humans, animals and food in 2014:

[http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/scientific\\_output/files/main\\_documents/4380.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/scientific_output/files/main_documents/4380.pdf)

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