

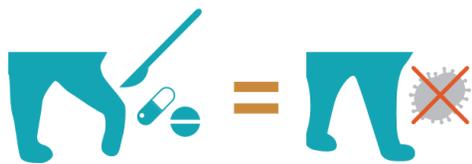
The availability and the success of mastitis treatment has a positive impact on the welfare of cows, has prevented unnecessary culling and has also greatly improved milk quality.



Pneumonia is a common disease (despite vaccination) of different farm animal species, but it is much more serious than the coughs and colds which spread through groups of school children: if left untreated it can spread through the herd and animals will often die.



Uterine infections such as metritis and pyometra, common in both pets and farm animals, if left untreated by antibiotics can be life threatening and are very painful.



During surgery preventive use of antibiotics is sometimes necessary, like with people, to avoid infection occurring.

# The vet's toolbox will always require antibiotics

**60%**<sup>1</sup> of citizens surveyed don't know that medicines have a positive impact on the welfare of farm animals – yet today with **82%**<sup>2</sup> of citizens saying that their welfare should be better protected, management of animal health and welfare is becoming more and more important for both consumers and retailers.



## Why vets need antibiotics for animal health

- **Vets need antibiotics to treat bacterial infections** in both farm animals and pets.
- **Prevention is better than cure**, but even with excellent bio-security and animal health management, some animals still become ill with infectious bacterial diseases, and antibiotic treatment is needed.
- **Antibiotic treatment in animals helps ensure good welfare.** Using antibiotics as little as possible, as much as necessary, helps to avoid unnecessary suffering.
- **Bacterial diseases in animals have to be treated effectively and efficiently**, to prevent further spread. Vets need to be able to prescribe the most appropriate licenced antibiotic available, and this should not be unnecessarily restricted.

## Animal health and antibiotic therapy: A few facts



When a bacterial infection occurs, just like people, **animals need treatment** with an antibiotic.

**Antibiotics cure disease and prevent further suffering** for pets and farm animals.



When used appropriately in livestock and poultry, antibiotics contribute to One Health, by **ensuring healthy animals and providing safe and nutritious food.**

Animal owners are morally bound to care for their animals: it is a **legal requirement under animal welfare legislation across Europe** that animal owners ensure that sick animals are treated appropriately.



In Europe **antibiotics for animals are prescription only.**

Since 2006 **antibiotics are not permitted for growth promotion purposes** in livestock.



Vets prescribe antibiotics "**As little as possible, as much as necessary**" respecting Responsible Use principles.

The animal medicines industry is researching new ways to help preserve the efficacy of antibiotics, and is **actively developing new vaccines and other preventive solutions** for managing the health of our pets and farm animals.



<sup>1</sup> 2016 survey commissioned by AnimalhealthEurope on over 6000 citizens across Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands, Poland, Spain and the UK.

<sup>2</sup> 2016 Eurobarometer on Consumer Attitudes towards Animal Welfare.

**Animalhealth Europe promotes Responsible Use of antibiotics in a One Health approach**, which includes appropriate hygiene practices and nutrition, prevention and health management and the use of diagnostics. Some animals will still become ill with infectious bacterial diseases, just like we do, and treatment is essential. **Antibiotics remain very important to maintain high levels of animal health and welfare in Europe.**

**Healthy animals mean healthy people and a healthier planet**

For more information visit: [www.AnimalhealthEurope.eu/AntibioticAction](http://www.AnimalhealthEurope.eu/AntibioticAction)

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