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Year-on-year success of Responsible Use campaigning demonstrated in 8th ESVAC report

Brussels, 15 October 2018; AnimalhealthEurope is pleased to see efforts to promote the Responsible Use of antibiotics amongst farmers and vets having an impact in the 8th ESVAC* report from the European Medicines Agency.

“All of AnimalhealthEurope’s member companies and national associations are supporting the ESVAC programme with data provision in a spirit of transparency and antibiotic stewardship. Meaningful data collection, not just on sales, but coupled with monitoring of resistance in foodborne and veterinary pathogens through national programmes or through CEESA, the unique pan-European resistance-monitoring programme, helps to feed better policy-making based on the latest knowledge available,” said AnimalhealthEurope Secretary General Roxane Feller.

The latest ESVAC report notes that overall sales of veterinary antibiotics across Europe continue with a downward trend as seen over the last few years. In particular, the report notes a steady decline in the use of antibiotics that are classified as being of critical importance to human health. This is a clear indicator of the strength of combined actions by the animal health sector, EU Member States and the institutions to reduce the emergence and spread of antibiotic resistance.

“Our continuous awareness-raising actions, including on improving prevention of animal disease on farms, is clearly showing greater uptake in many countries across Europe of responsible use principles when it comes to animal health. We must recall however that although antibiotic use is decreasing in many countries, the overall goal of our actions is to preserve the effectiveness of these precious tools for future generations. Protecting our health and that of our animals, also means acknowledging that antibiotics will remain essential to the veterinary toolbox in the future,” concluded Ms. Feller.

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Notes to editors

- The [European Surveillance of Veterinary Antimicrobial Consumption \(ESVAC\)](#) report is coordinated by the European Medicines Agency. It presents standardised sales (and prescription) data gathered annually on veterinary antibiotics by class in cooperation with national authorities. Participation in the ESVAC project has grown substantially, from nine countries initially to 30 today. The 2018 report includes data from 30 countries from the EU and the European Economic Area (EEA) plus Switzerland.
- [AnimalhealthEurope](#) is the representative body of manufacturers of veterinary medicines, vaccines and other animal health products in Europe. It represents innovators and generics alike, as well as large, medium-sized and small companies. AnimalhealthEurope promotes a single market in veterinary medicines across the EU ensuring the availability of medicines to protect the health and welfare of animals. Follow us on [@animalhealthEU](#)