

***Global repository of available guidelines for
responsible use of antimicrobials in animal health***

The World Veterinary Association (WVA) and the OIE have cooperated to develop a global repository of best practice guidelines for responsible use of antimicrobials in animal health.

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is a global One Health challenge, that threatens human health, animal health and welfare, and ecosystems. There will be significant impacts to health security, food security, and sustainable development if we do not address this challenge. The Global Action Plan on AMR provides the framework for global response, and the aligned OIE's Global Strategy for Antimicrobial Resistance and Prudent use of Antimicrobials outlines our approach in leading the animal health sector's contribution. A key objective of the strategy is to encourage a professional culture amongst veterinarians and veterinary paraprofessionals that supports the responsible and ethical use of antimicrobial products in animals.

Veterinarians and veterinarian professionals need clear and technically robust information to guide best practice in their responsible and prudent use of antimicrobials. While overarching policy statements provide a useful message, what has been lacking is host and syndrome specific clinical guidance that is relevant to the local context since both the aetiology and prevalence of infectious disease syndromes and the availability of therapeutics will vary by country and region.

In this context, in order to support best practice in prudent use of antimicrobials under veterinary supervision, the OIE has worked collaboratively with the World Veterinary Association (WVA) to create a global repository of available guidelines for responsible use of antimicrobials in animal health. WVA undertook a survey of its members (click [here](#) for the summary of survey results), from which a set of 102 guidelines, action plans and promotional material on prudent use of antimicrobials has been developed, covering large number of countries, languages, veterinary aspects and animal species. Access to these guidelines serve veterinarians and other health professionals to identify best practices for antimicrobials use in animal health and to fight the development of antimicrobial resistance.

The global repository demonstrates that national veterinary associations are playing a leading role in promoting best practices for the prudent and responsible use of antimicrobials. However, it also highlights gaps. While the policy statements provided in the repository are useful in guiding and developing the profession's general understanding of and response to AMR, what is really needed is ongoing development of clinical guidance that is specific with respect to animal species, infectious diseases and therapeutics that are relevant to the country of practice.

We encourage the ongoing development of such clinical guidance by WVA member associations, and their professional special interest branches. In this way, the global repository will become an even more valuable resource for veterinarians and veterinary paraprofessionals in their efforts in the global effort to address antimicrobial resistance.

The WVA will continuously update this list. If you identify missing information, mistakes or would like to add to the guidelines on this list, please inform the WVA secretariat at secretariat@worldvet.org.