

Ministerie van Economische Zaken



Initiatives to achieve a proper usage of antibiotics in livestock

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Ministerie van Economische Zaken

Livestock Production in The Netherlands

- 4 million cattle
- 12 million swine
- 400.000 horses
- 1,5 million sheep and goats
- 100 million poultry

share

- 34,000 sq km land
- with 17 million people

Source: CBS



License to produce at stake

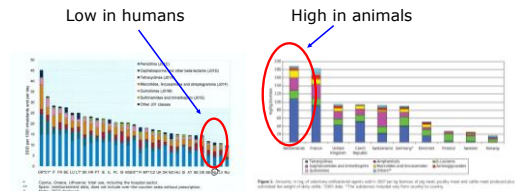
- Medical, public and political concern about public health risk of AMR originating from livestock
- NL among the countries with highest use of antibiotics in animal production

whereas

- NL among countries with most responsible, restrictive and selective use of antibiotics in human healthcare



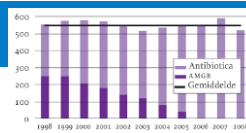
2007: Antibiotic sales



Strong appeal for a more responsible and restrictive use of antibiotics in animal production



Sense of urgency



- Important triggers:
- MRSA: treatment in isolation and restrictions on visiting hospitals for farmers
 - Political pressure that unless action is taken, veterinarians can no longer prescribe and sell antibiotics ('decoupling')
 - Report Berenschot: increasing awareness of the position of the farmer versus the veterinarian
 - Report by Health Council – human health risks basis of Dutch antibiotics policy



2008: Task Force Antibiotic Resistance

Agreement between livestock organisations and veterinary association; initiated and supported by the government

- Objectives for reduction and prudent use of antibiotics
- Took the lead to found the Dutch Veterinary Medicines Authority
- Supplementary agreement in 2010 with reduction targets





Responsibility taken by private sector

- Central registration of use for transparency and benchmarking
- One vet per herd and improvement of herd health management
- Restrictions on use of 3d and 4th generations cephalosporines
- Action plans for farmers using high amounts of antibiotics
- > Mostly mandatory since 2011 through the Product Board Regulation



Responsibility taken by Veterinary Association

- Development of a private quality scheme ("qualified veterinarians")
- Development of professional guidelines for veterinary use of antibiotics in livestock
- Revision of formulary's (first, second and third choice antibiotics)



Government (1)

Responsibility primarily taken by farmers and veterinarians

BUT

- Reduction targets set by the Dutch Minister:
 - 20% by 2011,
 - 50% by 2013,
 - 70% by 2015 (ref. 2009)
- Stringent enforcement actions by administrative law, criminal law and the veterinary disciplinary committee



Government (2)

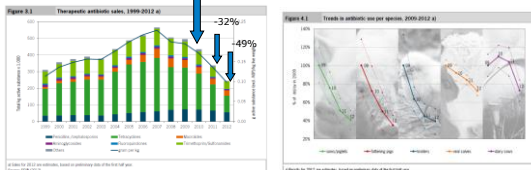
• New legislation and legislative measures:

- UDD-regulation: Antimicrobials administered exclusively by veterinarian, unless farmer complies with strict conditions
- Mandatory susceptibility testing for 3d choice antimicrobials
- Regulation of possession of active substance
- Permit system for veterinarians for the delivery of antimicrobials
- Ban on prophylactic use



Results

Reference year (2009)



- 3d, 4th gen. cephalosporines: -94% (2011 – 2012)
- fluoroquinolones: -45% (2011 – 2012)



Critical success factors and challenges

Result 2012: 49% reduction

Key factors for success:

- Action taken by all parties involved
- Private sector well organized enabling public-private cooperation and the possibility to use the Production Chain Quality Systems

International challenges:

- International cooperation to improve prudent use of antibiotics
- Prevent illegal use and trade of antibiotics

