



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

Deputy Director General for the Food chain

Brussels,
SANTE/G4/RP/hh(2015)

Dear Mr Url and Mr Pott,

Subject: Request for a joint EFSA and EMA scientific opinion on measures to reduce the need to use antimicrobial agents in animal husbandry in the European Union, and the resulting impacts on food safety

In the context of the Action Plan against the rising threats from Antimicrobial Resistance, the European Commission has developed different initiatives to enhance the prudent use of veterinary antimicrobials and to reduce the overall use in animal husbandry. The measures include inter alia the development of “Guidelines for prudent use of antimicrobials in veterinary medicine”. The guidelines present practical examples of different approaches to reduce the need to use antimicrobials and examples of alternatives.

However, the guidelines don't specify which the contribution is and which factors may impact on the success of these measures and alternatives to reduce the need of the use of antimicrobials.

Therefore, I would like to request EFSA and EMA to develop a joint scientific opinion in accordance with the terms of reference as included in the Annex to this letter.

The Commission needs this advice to be delivered by 20 December 2016.

Mr Bernhard Url
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European Food Safety Authority
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Mr Andreas Pott
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European Medicines Agency
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My services remain at your disposal for further information. On this matter, you can contact Ms Rosa Peran (SANTE/G4), who is responsible for antimicrobial resistance, Mr. Dean Bosnjak (SANTE/D6) responsible for the veterinary medicines legislation and Ms Marina Marini (SANTE/03), who is the relevant contact point in the unit in charge of relations with Agencies and advisory groups. Their respective phone and e-mail addresses are indicated below.

Yours sincerely,

Ladislav Miko

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Enclosure: Annex with the mandate request for a joint EFSA and EMA scientific opinion on measures to reduce the need to use antimicrobial agents in animal husbandry in the European Union, and the resulting impacts on food safety.

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