

CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Health
Organization

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Agenda Item 5, 6

CRD4

ORIGINAL LANGUAGE ONLY

JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

AD HOC CODEX INTERGOVERNMENTAL TASK FORCE ON ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE

Sixth Session

Comments of OIE

OIE

Three main OIE overall feedback points:

- 1) In our last General Session (May 2018), our 182 Member Countries agreed on the *definition* of “veterinary medical use” - and this includes the sub-definitions of *treatment*, *prevention* and *control* – Terrestrial Code Chapter 6.9 – we find it therefore very critical to see these definitions reflected in the docs:
Veterinary medical use of antimicrobial agents: means the administration of an antimicrobial agent to an individual or a group of animals to treat, control or prevent infectious disease:
 - “to treat”: means to administer an antimicrobial agent to an individual or a group of animals showing clinical signs of an infectious disease;
 - “to control”: means to administer an antimicrobial agent to a group of animals containing sick animals and healthy animals (presumed to be infected), to minimise or resolve clinical signs and to prevent further spread of the disease;
 - “to prevent”: means to administer an antimicrobial agent to an individual or a group of animals at risk of acquiring a specific infection or in a specific situation where infectious disease is likely to occur if the drug is not administered
- 2) Also agreed on the last General session was the additional restrictions on the use of 3rd and 4th Cephalosporins, Fluoroquinolones and Colistin, meaning that these two classes and colistin should:
 - Not be used as preventive treatment in feed or water in the absence of clinical signs
 - Not to be used as first line, unless justified based on bacteriological tests
 - Extra label/off label limited and reserved for instances when no alternatives are available
 - Urgently prohibit their use as growth promoters
- 3) Following up on the previous point: in the “Code of Practice” document, there are multiple references to the “*medically important antimicrobials*” – stated this way, without differentiation between highest priority, critically, highly, etc...almost all the antimicrobials are included. We find it therefore very important to further clarify the classes that we are talking about, as stated in point 2).