

# **Antibiotics**

**used for promoting  
growth**

## **growth promoters**

- **anabolic steroids**
- **antibiotics**
- **somatotropins**
- **probiotics**
- **banned drugs**

## **use of antibiotics**

- **treatment**
  - sick animals, full doses
- **metaphylaxis**
  - healthy contact animals, full doses
- **prophylaxis**
  - healthy animals, low doses
- **growth promotion**
  - healthy animals, (very) low doses

**Every time an antibiotic is given, there is selection pressure for resistance.**

### **history**

- **1949**
  - pigs fed old cultures of *S. rimosus* for vit B12 grew faster
- **1967**
  - Swann report - only non therapeutic drugs to be used for growth promotion
- **1997**
  - Denmark gets EU to ban avoparcin

### **mechanism**

- gnotobiotic animals grow about **5% faster**
- inhibition of G+ bacteria in gut
- inhibition of protozoa in ruminants???

### **residues**

- fed at very low level
- most are not absorbed
- no residues at GP doses
- may be residues at prophylactic doses

### **resistance**

- exposure to antibiotics selects for resistance
- animals exposed for long periods

### **resistance**

- pathogens
- commensals
- targets unknown in growth promotion

## **species**

- poultry
- pigs
- feedlot cattle
- calves
- grazing cattle

## **zoonoses**

- **fluoroquinolone resistant**
  - *Salmonella* spp (DT104)
  - *Campylobacter*
  - *E.coli* O157

## **transfer of resistance**

- drug causes emergence of resistance in animal
- carcass contaminated by resistant organisms
- resistant organisms survive cooking and eating
- resistant organisms colonise people
- resistant organisms cause disease in people, or
- resistant organisms pass on resistance to human pathogens

## **politics**

- **1960s**
  - widespread emergence of tetracycline resistance
- **1967**
  - Swann report
- **1980s / 1990s**
  - emergence of VRE & MRSA

## **politics now**

- **WHO recommendations**
- **most banned in EU**
- **most under pressure in USA & Australia**
- **Most banned as growth promoters in NZ, but allowed for prophylaxis**

## **drugs**

- **avilamycin**
- **avoparcin**
- **bacitracin**
- **dimetridazole**
- **macrolides**
- **monensin**
- **quinoxalines**
- **virginiamycin**

## **avilamycin**

- **broiler chickens**
- **pigs**
- **cross resistance**
  - everninomycin
- **still used in NZ, recently banned in EU**

## **avoparcin**

- **cross resistance**
  - vancomycin
- **now history - not manufactured any more**

## **bacitracin**

- **broiler chickens**
- **pigs**
- **calves**
- **no cross resistance**
- **toxic parenterally**
- **banned in EU, PAR1 in NZ**
  - prevention of necrotic enteritis

## **dimetridazole**

- **pigs**
- **carcinogenic**
- **cross resistance**
  - other nitroimidazoles
- **banned everywhere except NZ**
  - swine dysentery

## **macrolides**

- **tylosin**
- **spiramycin**
- **tiamulin**
- **pigs**
- **cross resistance**
  - other macrolides
- **PAR in NZ and EU**

## **monensin**

- **cattle & broiler chickens**
- **toxic to horses and dogs**
  - pigs in combination with macrolides
- **no relevant cross resistance**

## **oxytetracycline**

- **PAR 1**
  - respiratory disease in pigs
- **grossly over / ab used**

## **quinoxalines**

- **carbadox**
- **olaquinox**
- **dinitro-o-toluamide**
- **carcinogenic**
- **banned everywhere except NZ**
- **do not use**
  - swine dysentery

## **virginiamycin**

- **broiler chickens and horses**
- **(feedlot cattle overseas)**
- **cross resistance**
  - other streptogramins - Synercid
- **PAR1 level 4**
- **avoid if at all possible**



## **legal status**

- **growth promoters**
  - general sales
  - being phased out
- **disease preventers**
  - PAR 1

## **The future??**

- more paperwork
- surveillance system
- vets will have to be able to justify their actions

## **role of the vet**

- ensure good husbandry before use
- do not use drugs for disease prevention without evidence of disease
- provide written protocols for farmers (with withholding times)
- keep records
- monitor results - culture & sensitivity
- investigate outbreaks of disease properly