EPRUMA

European Platform for the Responsible Use of Medicines in Animals

Linking best practice with animal health

About EPRUMA

European Platform for the Responsible Use of Medicines in Animals

- **Mission**: Promote responsible use of medicines in animals in the EU
- **Aim**: Facilitate and promote a **coordinated approach**, involving all stakeholders, to ensure **best practice** in the responsible use of medicines in disease prevention and control → promote **animal health and welfare**
- Established in 2005

About EPRUMA

European Platform for the Responsible Use of Medicines in Animals

How it works:

- **Identifying issues** of scientific and public concern in the areas of public health, animal health, animal welfare and the environment related to the use of animal medicines
- **Providing** an informed **consensus** view on these issues
- **Establishing broad principles** describing "best practice" concerning the use of medicines in disease prevention and control.

About EPRUMA

European Platform for the Responsible Use of Medicines in Animals

How it works (contd.):

- **Communicating through** and invoving **all parties** concerned in the implemention of best practices
- **Consulting and communicating** to promote responsible use, to contribute to relevant legislation, to explain responsible use as part of good farming
- **Identifying and supporting implementation** of practical strategies to sustain responsible use.

EPRUMA members

- **COPA-COGECA:** Farmers and agri-cooperatives
- **EISA:** European Initiative for Sustainable Development in Agriculture
- **FECAVA:** Small-animal vets
- **FEFAC:** Feed manufacturers
- **FESASS:** Animal-health farmer organisations
- **FVE:** Veterinarians
- **IFAH-Europe:** Animal health industry

Observer:
EFFAB: Farm animal breeders

Best-practice framework

Use of antimicrobials in food-producing animals in the EU

Best-practice framework

Purpose:

- Contribute to antimicrobial effectiveness through **best-practice**
- **Adaptable** to specificities in Member States
- Complementing integrated farming

Coordinated approach across the EU
+ tailored at national level

Best-practice framework

Good health – food production

- **Good health** → animal welfare + optimal animal performance
- **Disease control**: Essential in health management + part of high-quality food production

Best-practice framework

Antimicrobials (AM): Essential tools

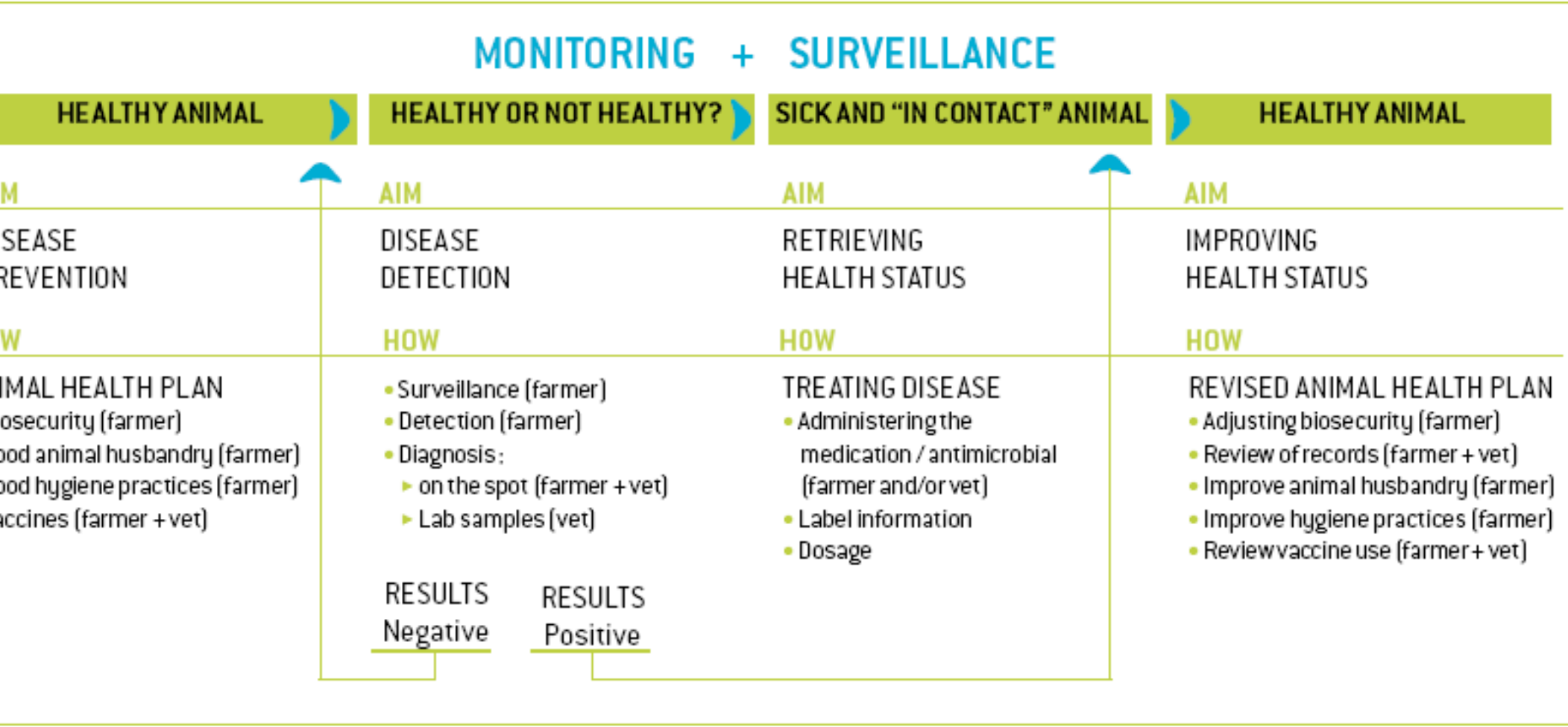
- They **kill or inhibit** the growth of bacteria
- Contribution to **animal health and welfare** - alleviating pain and discomfort
- **Responsible use** is necessary – fight AM resistence
- AM use should complement **good farm-management**
- **Various classes** + **routes** of administration
- **License:** proven quality, safety and efficacy

Best-practice framework

Animal health – good husbandry

- **Farmers**: Monitor the health and welfare of animals
- **Veterinarians**: Advise on prevention, diagnosis and treatment of disease
- **Husbandry**: Good environment + biosecurity + health plan
- **Vet/farmer**: Open communication is key

Best-practice framework



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Best-practice framework

Disease diagnosis and treatment

- **Disease:** Vet examines animal → diagnosis → intervention
- **Early action** is key
- **Vet to choose** the most appropriate AM (spectrum)
- Farmer/vet/expert **cooperation** to ensure effective treatment
- **Successful treatment**: Proper administration of AM + correct quantity and time period

Management advise or prescription (AM)

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Best-practice framework

Record keeping - Farmer and vet

- **Mandatory record** of animal medicines used on the farm
- Keeping information → **future treatment**

Infectious diseases:
Historical information - laboratory sensitivity data

Records:
- **They indicate AM use on the farm**
- **Trends should be observed and changes examined.**

Best-practice framework

Protecting future effectiveness

- **If concern:** Farmer to consult vet → report to authorities

  Issue : Safety or efficacy

- **Monitoring sensitivity**: Important to do it on an ongoing basis (e.g. resistance)

Benefits:
→ Help veterinarians to make best decision on treatment
→ Support public health

Best-practice framework: Conclusions

- **Antimicrobials are key** → protect animal health and welfare
- **Protecting animal health** → High quality food from healthy animals + minimising environmental impact
- **All parties should work together** → Ensure safe use + minimise resistance

Guiding principle:

«As little as possible and as much as necessary»

New developments

Short term:

EPRUMA website: available as from June 2010
www.epruma.eu

EPRUMA leaflet and poster: available as from June 2010
www.epruma.eu

New developments

Longer term:

Development new guidelines e.g. companion animals

Accreditation other guidelines/posters on responsible use
e.g. BVA poster