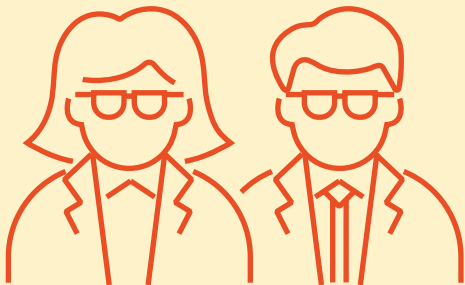


# Fighting antimicrobial resistance

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## A guide for **veterinary authorities**

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Imagine a world where infections and diseases in animals, humans and plants cannot be treated. This worst-case scenario could become a reality as some bacteria, viruses, fungi and parasites develop resistance to the drugs we use to fight them. Antimicrobial resistance, or AMR, has become one of the most pressing health issues of our time.

**Solutions exist and you have a role to play to address this global threat.**



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As a **veterinary authority**, you have an overarching view on the entire antimicrobial supply chain. From financing research to supporting the implementation of good practices in the field... AMR needs to be addressed at every stage of that chain, and you can act on all these levels simultaneously.

## Here is what you can do.

### GOAL 1



## Researchers and you

**Support and finance research** into the development of methods for the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of diseases. This includes rapid diagnostic tests, vaccines or other alternatives to antimicrobials.

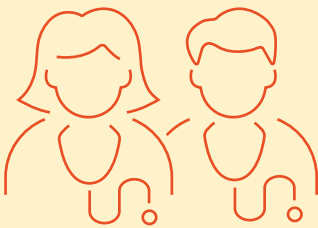
### GOALS 2 3

## Manufacturers, drug traders and you

**Prevent the importation, manufacturing and circulation of low-quality and counterfeit products.** They can be toxic and even life-threatening. Moreover, they contribute to AMR.

**Advocate for the development of Public-Private Partnerships** to support the implementation of good practices for the manufacturing, distribution, sales and use of antimicrobials in animals.

### GOALS 3 4 6



## Prescribers and you

**Ensure the presence of enough well-trained animal health professionals** in all regions of your territory through strong education and training programmes.

**Make sure that guidelines for responsible use of antimicrobials are available** in your country. Use WOA's international Standards and [list of antimicrobials of veterinary importance](#) to inform the development of these guidelines.

## GOALS

# Maintaining the efficacy of antimicrobials

- 1 Reduce global dependency on antimicrobials.
- 2 Discourage illegal trade and over the counter sales of antimicrobials.
- 3 Decrease misuse and overuse of antimicrobials, one of the main drivers of AMR.
- 4 Improve animal health and reduce the overall need to use antimicrobials.
- 5 Undermine the spread of health threats across human, animal and plant sectors.
- 6 Support the implementation of good practices and antimicrobial stewardship.

## GOALS 1 3 5

### Other health sectors and you

Put together One Health initiatives by collaborating with human health, environment and agriculture departments to fight AMR.

## GOALS 2 3

### Farmers, aquatic animal producers, animal owners and you

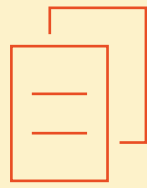
Support the implementation of relevant biosecurity and disease prevention measures.

Provide guidance on minimising the use of antimicrobials in animals.

### WOAH's list of antimicrobials of veterinary importance: a key tool to fight AMR

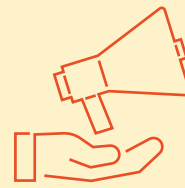
This list specifies all antimicrobials that are essential to prevent, treat and control animal diseases. It also includes recommendations on the use of antimicrobials deemed critically important for humans. These antimicrobials are often the only efficient available option against these diseases and should therefore be used carefully and in accordance with our guidelines. The list provides you with a clear set of priorities and should be referenced in national guidelines on the responsible use of antimicrobials.

All of these actions should be part of a **national action plan on AMR**, in line with WOA's [Global Strategy on Antimicrobial Resistance and the Prudent Use of Antimicrobials in Animals](#). This national action plan should include:



## Legislation

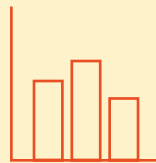
Make sure [WOAH's science-based Standards](#) on antimicrobial use and AMR in terrestrial and aquatic animals are translated into your national legislation.



## Awareness

Support awareness campaigns on the responsible use of antimicrobials in animals from research, development and manufacturing to end-use and, including for unused or expired antimicrobials.

**Regularly monitor and evaluate the progress of your national action plan on AMR.**



## Surveillance

Strengthen knowledge through monitoring, research and development. This includes collecting and reporting data on antimicrobial use in animals to WOA's global database (ANIMUSE).



## Capacity building

Assess your competencies through the [PVS Pathway](#) to ensure that Veterinary Services have the capacity to implement AMR legislation and to provide quality animal health care.

**Ensure that sufficient budget is allocated to the implementation of national action plans.**

## Use antimicrobials with care.

Because animal health is our health, it's everyone's health.



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