

DEFRA ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE CO-ORDINATION (DARC) GROUP

SIXTY FOURTH MEETING THURSDAY 7th December 2017 11:00 – 16:00

Present: Agri-Food and Bioscience Institute (AFBI)
Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA)
Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (CEFAS)
Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA)
Food Standards Agency (FSA)
NHS Scotland
Public Health England (PHE)
Public Health Agency for Northern Ireland (PHA)
Scottish Government (SG)
Scotland's Rural College (SRUC)
Veterinary Medicines Directorate (VMD)
Welsh Government (WG)

1. Update on recent findings

1.1 England and Wales -

- In the last quarter there have been a few cases of cattle and sheep *S. Typhimurium* DT104.
- A case of resistant *S. Typhimurium* was also reported in a cat.
- There has been a finding of Salmonella 61:k:1,5,(7) isolated from the nasal passage of carrier animals.
- The total number of salmonella cases has increased by 25% since 2016 and this can mainly be seen in the poultry sector. It is not yet clear whether this increase in the poultry sector is due to a move away from CIA use.
- CTXM14 has seen a large decrease in incidence which is also the case in Northern Ireland. There are some CTXMs that are increasing in cattle and decreasing in poultry which is an interesting trend – with CTXM-1,14,15 and 55 cases in cattle but only CTXM-1 cases in poultry.
- There have been no new cases of MRSA in since the last meeting.
- There was a report of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* in cattle thought to be spread throughout the herd via udder cleaning cloths.

1.2 Scotland

- In Scotland there is an ongoing case of *S. Typhimurium* DT104 in cattle and two cases on monophasic *S. Typhimurium* in a pig and dog faeces.
- No cases of ESBLs were reported since the last meeting.
- There was one case of MRSA in a feline and one case in macaque.
- There was also a report of *S. schleiferi* coagulans subspecies in a dog.

1.3 Northern Ireland

- 14 cases of uncharacterised ESBLs and suspected MRSA from a commercial duck farm were reported. The result from the labs was MRSA negative which was confirmed by PHE.
- 12 cases of monophasic *S. Typhimurium* were isolated from a mixture of chickens, pigs and cattle.

2. LA-MRSA paper

The group discussed a Dutch paper on LA-MRSA transmission in households of pig farmers.

3. Update on consumption projects

The sector specific targets were published on the 27th October 2017. Eight sectors, coordinated by RUMA (Responsible Use of Medicines in Agriculture), developed these targets which are endorsed by the UK government. The full report is available at the following link (<http://www.ruma.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/RUMA-Targets-Task-Force-Report-2017-FINAL.pdf>)

4. UK-VARSS 2016

The UK-VARSS 2016 report was published on the 27th October 2017 which presented combined data on veterinary antibiotic sales and antibiotic resistance in bacteria from animals in the UK. The report can be found on GOV.uk: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/veterinary-antimicrobial-resistance-and-sales-surveillance-2016>

5. EU update

The committee adopted an opinion for an 'SPC harmonisation' referral for Girolan/Apralan (apramycin) for use in drinking water and milk for treatment of pigs, calves, chickens and rabbits. During the process, claims for treatment of *Salmonella* spp. in pigs and chickens were removed, but a claim for treatment of *S. Dublin* in calves was retained.

6. Summary of International Collaborations and AMR-related activities

The DARC group reported on current international collaborations and events.

7. Future UK AMR strategy

Representatives from the VMD and devolved administrations gave an overview of the current activities in relation to the future UK AMR strategy.

8. Date of next meeting

Wednesday 21st February 2018

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