

DEFRA ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE CO-ORDINATION (DARC) GROUP

SIXTY NINTH MEETING WEDNESDAY 20 FEBRUARY 2019 11:00 – 16:00

Present: Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA)
Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute (AFBINI)
Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC)
Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, Northern Ireland (DAERA)
Environment Agency (EA)
Food Standards Agency (FSA)
NHS Scotland (NHSS)
Scotland's Rural College (SRUC)
Welsh Government (WG)
Veterinary Medicines Directorate (VMD)

1. Update on recent findings

The data presented under 'Update on recent findings' are obtained from submissions of cases of clinical disease by Private Veterinary Surgeons to the network of government laboratories and their partner providers in England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland and from monitoring of healthy livestock and investigations of possible links with human Salmonella outbreaks in those regions. Data from the testing of chickens and turkeys under the Salmonella National Control Programmes are not included here.

The results presented in this section are preliminary and subject to change. The final annual figures will be published in the 'Salmonella in Livestock Production in Great Britain' and the 'UK-VARSS' annual reports and will be made available via GOV.UK.

1.1 England and Wales

- A similar number of *Salmonella* Typhimurium incidents were observed in 2018 (118) compared to 2017 (117). Sixty-nine incidents of monophasic *S. Typhimurium* were observed in 2018; 31 incidents of 4,5,12:i:- and 38 incidents of 4,12:i which represents declines of 31% and 27% respectively when compared to 2017.
- The numbers of *Salmonella* isolates from animal feed and feed raw materials increased in 2018 (628) compared to 2017 (470).
- Pentavalent resistance was detected in single isolates of *S. Wangata* and *S. Reading*. No resistance to cefotaxime or ceftazidime was detected in *Salmonella* isolates in 2018.
- ESBL *E. coli* with CTX-M enzymes 14 and 15 were detected in cattle, whilst isolates with CTX-M enzymes 1, 3 and 32 were detected in pigs.

1.2 Scotland

- The SRUC recovered two MRSA isolates from England; one was LA-MRSA from a turkey lung and one was a *mecA*-gene positive MRSA isolated from a pig brain (resistance pattern; TeTia)

- In the last quarter (October – January), two incidents of *Salmonella* Typhimurium were described in pigs; one was monophasic *Salmonella* Typhimurium type B and one was *Salmonella* Typhimurium ST34.
- Two ESBL-producing Enterobacteriaceae were recovered in the last quarter; one *Klebsiella pneumoniae* in bovine milk and one *E. coli* in bovine lung.
- Three MRSP incidents were reported in dogs.

1.3 Northern Ireland

- In the last quarter (October – January), two *Salmonella* Typhimurium isolates were recovered from cattle manure and a carcass swab and three monophasic *Salmonella* Typhimurium isolates were recovered from manufacturing food meats, British sausage meat and dried porcine blood.
- One *Salmonella* Infantis was isolated from a raw chicken, cheese and bacon food product.
- No ESBL-producing Enterobacteriaceae isolates were recovered.
- Forty-four *S. aureus* isolates were identified; one was reported as MRSA from a pig lung.

2. JPIAMR Network Bid on AMR in the environment

A representative from the EA gave an update on the JPIAMR Network Bid on AMR in the environment that was submitted in response to the 2018 JPIAMR call for the formation of a network to encourage discussions surrounding environmental AMR surveillance.

3. Airborne AMR Review

A representative from the EA gave an overview of the Airborne AMR Review that is to be published on the EA website shortly.

4. EU Update

On 5 February the Committee for Medicinal Products for Veterinary Use (CVMP) published two new draft documents for consultation (until 30 April 2019) from the Antimicrobial Advice Ad Hoc Expert Group (AMEG); [updated scientific advice on the preliminary risk profiling for new antimicrobials](#) and [updated advice on the categorisation of antimicrobials](#).

5. Update on Consumption Projects

Cattle: eMB Cattle is being piloted by AHDB until the end of 2019. A representative from the VMD gave an overview of a Cattle Medicines Benchmarking Consultation Paper produced to identify the possible ways to benchmark for the dairy and beef industry.

Poultry: Poultry antibiotic usage data will be published in the BPC Antibiotic Stewardship Report in April 2019.

Pigs: eMB pigs benchmarking has been improved to allow farmers to compare their usage with others.

Gamebirds: A 50% reduction in antibiotic usage has been observed over the past two years.

6. Vaccines Adherence Paper

A representative from the VMD gave an overview of the vaccines adherence paper.

7. VMD Latest AMR R&D Commission

A representative from the VMD gave an overview on the latest VMD AMR R&D Commission.

8. Recently Published Reports

Representatives from the VMD and FSA gave overviews of their recently published reports; VMD ([UK One Health Report](#)) and FSA ([Campylobacter contamination in fresh whole UK-produced chilled chickens at retail sale \(Year 3 2016-2017\)](#)).

9. Date of the Next Meeting

Tuesday, 25 June 2019, 11am, VMD.