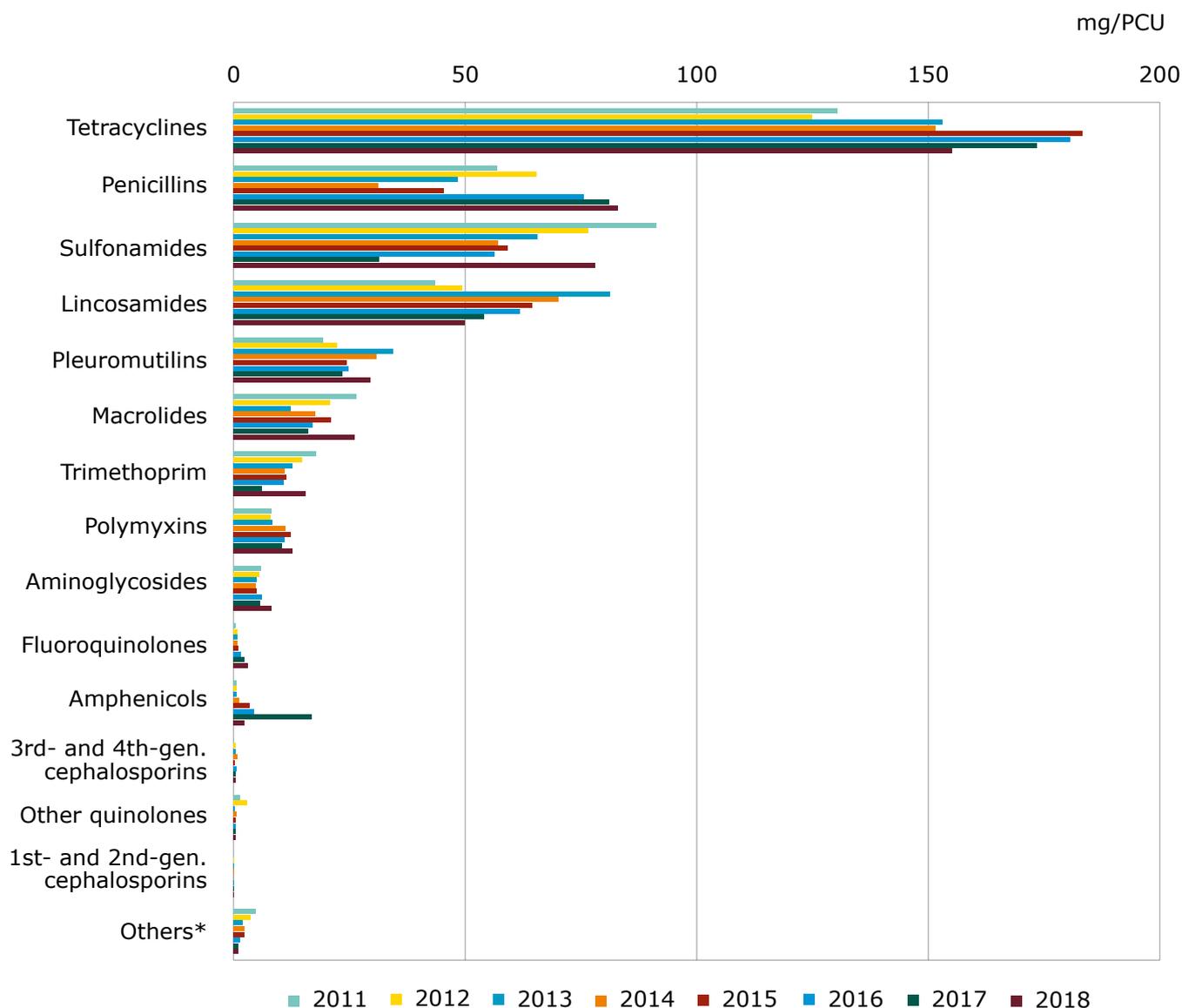


CYPRUS



CHANGES IN SALES (MG/PCU) ACROSS YEARS



* Other antibacterials (classified as such in the ATCvet system).

The annual sales, in mg/PCU, of veterinary antimicrobials in Cyprus fluctuated during the period 2011 (407.6 mg/PCU) to 2018 (466.3 mg/PCU), with an increase of 14% being observed. In comparison with 2017 (423.1 mg/PCU), an increase of 10% was also observed. Note that the proportion of goats in Cyprus is relatively high compared to other countries participating in the ESVAC. This has a significant effect on the magnitude of PCU for Cyprus since living goats are not included in the PCU calculation for the ESVAC. Based on national statistics for the number of goats in Cyprus and an average treatment weight of about 45 kg, the living goat PCU would have added 12.3 thousand tonnes to the PCU for Cyprus. If goats had been included in the PCU, the total annual sales, in mg/PCU, would have been approximately 11% lower in 2018.

In 2011, 3rd- and 4th-generation cephalosporins accounted for 0.04% of total sales, while in 2018, this figure was 0.1%, with an increase of 159% being observed in comparison with 2011. In 2018, sales of 3rd- and 4th-generation cephalosporins were 0.44 mg/PCU, corresponding to an increase of 22% from 2017 (0.38 mg/PCU), while the aggregated sales for 25 countries were 0.18 mg/PCU. Of note is that sales of 3rd- and 4th-generation cephalosporins are higher than sales of 1st- and 2nd generation cephalosporins.

For fluoroquinolones, sales accounted for 0.1% and 1% of total sales in 2011 and 2018, respectively, which represents an overall increase of 502% in the sales of this antibiotic class. In 2018, sales of fluoroquinolones were 3.12 mg/PCU, corresponding to an increase of 30% from 2017 (2.40 mg/PCU), while the aggregated sales for 25 countries were 2.42 mg/PCU.

For other quinolones, the sales were 0.38 mg/PCU in 2018, having dropped by 75% from 2011 (1.51 mg/PCU) and by 13% from 2017 (0.44 mg/PCU). The aggregated sales for the 25 countries were 0.27 mg/PCU.

Sales of polymyxins increased by 57% from 2011 to 2018, representing 2% and 3% of total sales, respectively. In 2018, sales of polymyxins were 12.83 mg/PCU, corresponding to an increase of 23% from 2017 (10.42 mg/PCU), while the aggregated sales for 25 countries were 3.31 mg/PCU.

The sales of amphenicols, pleuromutilins and aminoglycosides have also increased from 2011 to 2018 by 244%, 53% and 40%, respectively. Of note is that from 2017 to 2018, sales of amphenicols dropped by 86%.

A National Strategic Plan to combat antimicrobial resistance was published in December 2012 by the Ministry of Health under the "One Health" approach. This plan is managed by the National Committee on Antibiotics, which includes representatives from both the human and veterinary medicine fields. Activities introduced with the National Strategic Plan focus mainly on human health although there are some actions in the veterinary field, such as improving diagnosis and the use of antibiotics in animals and specifying measures to encourage the prudent use of antimicrobials.

Moreover, a separate and specific action plan was considered necessary to address the high level of veterinary antimicrobial sales in Cyprus over the last few years. To that end, a five-year action plan to combat antimicrobial resistance was prepared by the veterinary services and approved during the first half of 2018 by the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment. This plan contains several types of measures, including: awareness-raising campaigns; strengthening the prevention of infections in food-producing animals; controls on the use of highest priority critically important antimicrobials for human medicine; and recommendations on the prudent use of antimicrobials that are in line with EC published guidance.

In Cyprus, a fact-finding mission was carried out between 10 and 14 October 2016 in order to gather information on the prudent use of antimicrobials in animals¹.

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/food/audits-analysis/audit_reports/details.cfm?rep_id=3759&rep_inspection_ref=xxx

