Veterinary medicines highlights 2016

New veterinary medicines

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Medicines that contain a new active substance are highlighted in blue

Innovations advancing animal health

Protecting honey bees

Honey Bees

VarroMed is an antiparasitic medicine that treats the Varroa mite infestation in honey-bee colonies, which is considered to be the most significant parasitic health concern affecting honey bees worldwide. The decline of these pollinators could lead to serious biological, agricultural, environmental and economic difficulties.

Vaccines against emerging diseases

Rabbits

Eravac is a vaccine for the protection of rabbits against a new variant of rabbit haemorrhagic disease virus, called RHDV2, for which all current vaccines are ineffective.

Vaccines

Chicken

Evalon a vaccine that protects chicken against coccidiosis, a parasitic disease of the intestinal tract

Atlantic salmon

CLYNAV a biotechnological vaccine based on a DNA plasmid that protects Atlantic salmon against pancreas disease caused by infection with salmonid alphavirus subtype 3

Pigs

Coliprotec F4/F18 a vaccine that protects against porcine post-weaning diarrhoea caused by Escherichia coli in pigs

Dogs

Letifend a biotechnological vaccine based on a recombinant protein for dogs to protect them against leishmaniasis, a disease transmitted by sand flies

Rabbits

Eravac a vaccine that protects rabbits against a new variant of rabbit haemorrhagic disease virus, called RHDV2

This information reflects EMA’s recommendations whether or not an EU-wide marketing authorisation should be granted. The final decision is taken by the European Commission.
Medicines against infectious diseases that could reduce the use of antimicrobials in animals

**Pigs**
- **Coliprotec F18/F4**
  - A vaccine that protects pigs against post-weaning diarrhoea caused by toxic *Escherichia coli*. This has the potential to change the current practice to give antibiotics to control infection in pig herds.

**Important CVMP safety recommendations in 2016**
- Increase the withdrawal period of medicines containing gentamicin in cattle and pigs to enhance consumer safety; avoid administering gentamicin subcutaneously.
- Take environment protection measures to make sure that altrenogest, a steroidal hormone for young female pigs and mares, has no adverse effects on the reproduction of aquatic organisms.
- Refuse the marketing authorisations and withdraw currently authorised zinc oxide-containing medicines, used in medicated feeding stuff for piglets, as these products increase soil zinc concentrations to levels considered harmful for the environment.
- Suspend Velactis after serious adverse events were reported in cattle, including recumbency (lying down or inability to stand up) and death.
- Withdraw all marketing authorisations for veterinary medicines containing colistin in combination with other antibiotics that are administered orally throughout the EU.

**Antimicrobial resistance: EMA’s recommendation on colistin**
Colistin should only be used as a second-line treatment in animals and sales should be minimised across all European Union (EU) Member States. If use in animals is cut to 5mg colistin/ population correction unit**, an overall reduction of around 65% in the current sales of colistin for veterinary use at EU level could be achieved.

**Chicken**
- **Evalon**
  - A vaccine that protects chicken against coccidiosis, a disease of the gut. Coccidial infections are widely treated with anticoccidial medicines which can have a potential risk of inducing resistance. The use of this vaccine to enhance resistance to infection might therefore have an indirect benefit in reducing the use of anticoccidial medicines***.

**New uses for existing medicines**
The use of 4 known substances has been expanded in 2016:
- **DRAXXIN** to be also used against swine respiratory disease (SRD)
- **Profender** to be also used as a spot-on solution for cats
- **Poulvac E. coli** to be also used in turkeys
- **Trifexis** to be also used to treat and prevent flea infestations in dogs

*Minor use veterinary medicines are intended for use in major species such as cattle, sheep, pigs, chickens, Atlantic salmon, cats and dogs for the treatment of diseases that occur infrequently or occur in limited geographical areas. Minor species are all animals that are not one of the major species.

**Clarified by replacing ‘by’ with ‘to’ on 26/01/2017.**

**Amended on 08/03/2017 to better reflect the risk of inducing antimicrobial resistance.**