

# **RESPONSIBLE USE OF VETERINARY ANTIMICROBIALS IN THE UK**

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**ASSURING THE SAFETY, QUALITY AND EFFICACY  
OF VETERINARY MEDICINES**

# Policy

# Communication

# Results



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OF VETERINARY MEDICINES

# Policy

- Recognise value of antimicrobials for animal health and any possible risks for human health
- All antimicrobials have to be prescribed by a veterinary surgeon
- Encourage responsible use by vets



# Communication

- Responsible Use of Medicines in Agriculture (RUMA) Alliance
- Web site [www.ruma.org.uk](http://www.ruma.org.uk)
- Non-Government body
- Members include farmers, associated industries and organisations, education, vets, pharmacists, medicines suppliers, welfare organisations, food suppliers, consumers
- Observers from Government VMD, Defra, FSA



# Communication

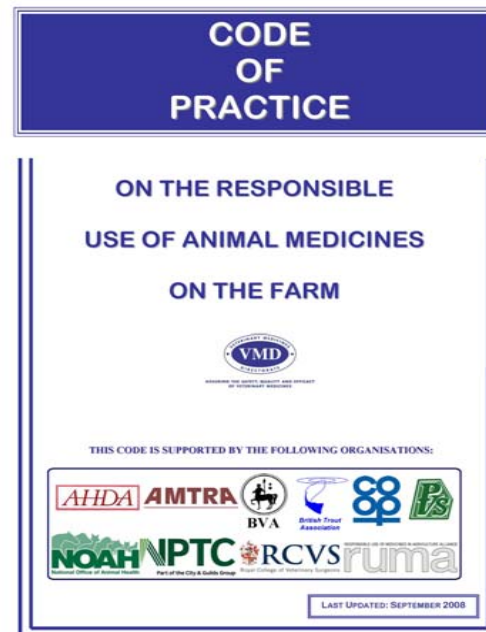
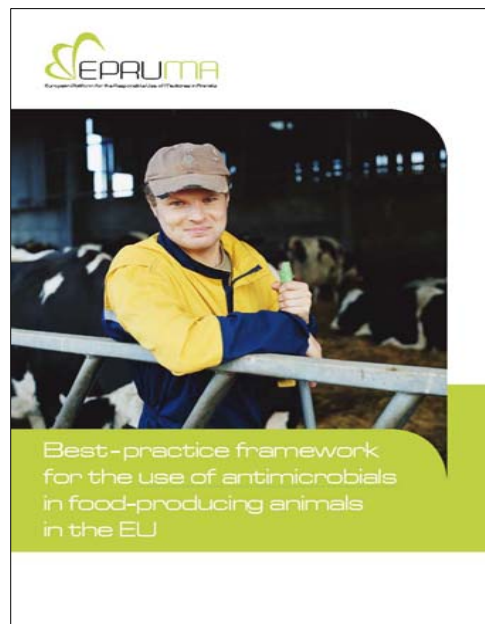
- RUMA Responsible Use Guidelines for Antimicrobials in cattle, sheep, pigs, poultry, fish
- Similar guidelines also available for vaccines
- Two sets of each guideline – detailed version for vets, shorter version for farmers
- All available free at [www.ruma.org.uk](http://www.ruma.org.uk)



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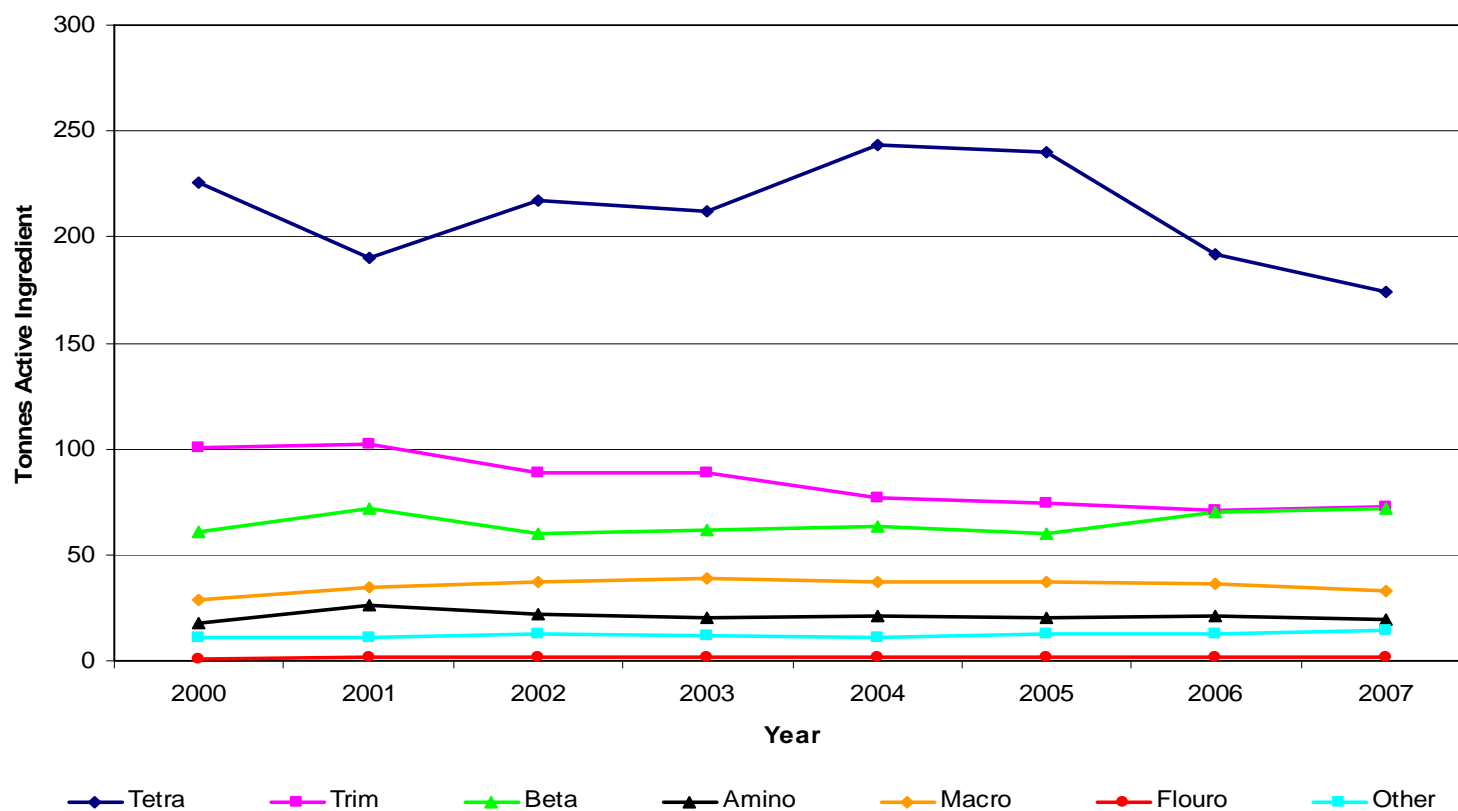
# RUMA Guidelines

- EPRUMA is EU equivalent [further details [info@epruma.eu](mailto:info@epruma.eu)]
- VMD Code of Practice on Responsible Use of Animal Medicines on the Farm
- Both available from VMD website



# Results

- Antimicrobial sales data collated and published annually



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