ICELAND

CHANGES IN SALES (MG/PCU) ACROSS YEARS

A gradual decline of 20% in sales, in mg/PCU, was observed from 2011 (6.2 mg/PCU) to 2018 (4.9 mg/PCU), although a slight increase occurred between 2017 (4.6 mg/PCU) and 2018. In general, sales (in mg/PCU) are very low in Iceland, with a decreasing trend for almost every antimicrobial class, except penicillins. The decrease from 2010 was caused by a reduction in sales of several products, in particular:

- Penicillins
- Aminoglycosides
- Sulfonamides
- Tetracyclines
- Trimethoprim
- Fluoroquinolones
- 3rd- and 4th-gen. cephalosporins
- Lincosamides
- Other quinolones
- Pleuromutilins
- Others*

No sales of amphenicols, 1st- and 2nd-gen. cephalosporins, macrolides and polymyxins in any of the years.

From 2012 no sales of other antibacterials and lincosamides, from 2013 no sales of pleuromutilins and from 2014 no sales of other quinolones have been reported.

* Other antibacterials (classified as such in the ATCvet system).
aminoglycosides and tetracyclines. However, no definite conclusion can be reached for the time being as to what caused these changes, although there has been increased general awareness of the importance of the responsible use of antimicrobials.

In 2018, penicillins and aminoglycosides were the most-sold classes, accounting for 73% and 15%, respectively, of the annual sales, while 3rd- and 4th-generation cephalosporins and fluoroquinolones represented only 0.03% and 0.1%, respectively. For penicillins, 83% of sales were beta lactamase-sensitive penicillins.

Sales, in mg/PCU, of 3rd- and 4th-generation cephalosporins declined by 87% from 2011 (0.01 mg/PCU) to 2018 (0.0013 mg/PCU), with a very slight increase of 6% between 2017 (0.0012 mg/PCU) and 2018, while aggregated sales for 25 countries were 0.18 mg/PCU.

Sales of fluoroquinolones fell by 31% from 2011 (0.005 mg/PCU) to 2018 (0.003 mg/PCU) and by 14% from 2017 (0.004 mg/PCU) and 2018. These values are very low in comparison with the aggregated sales for 25 countries (2.42 mg/PCU).

In Iceland, there were no sales of macrolides and polymyxins in any of the years of analysis and since 2014, no sales of other quinolones have been reported.