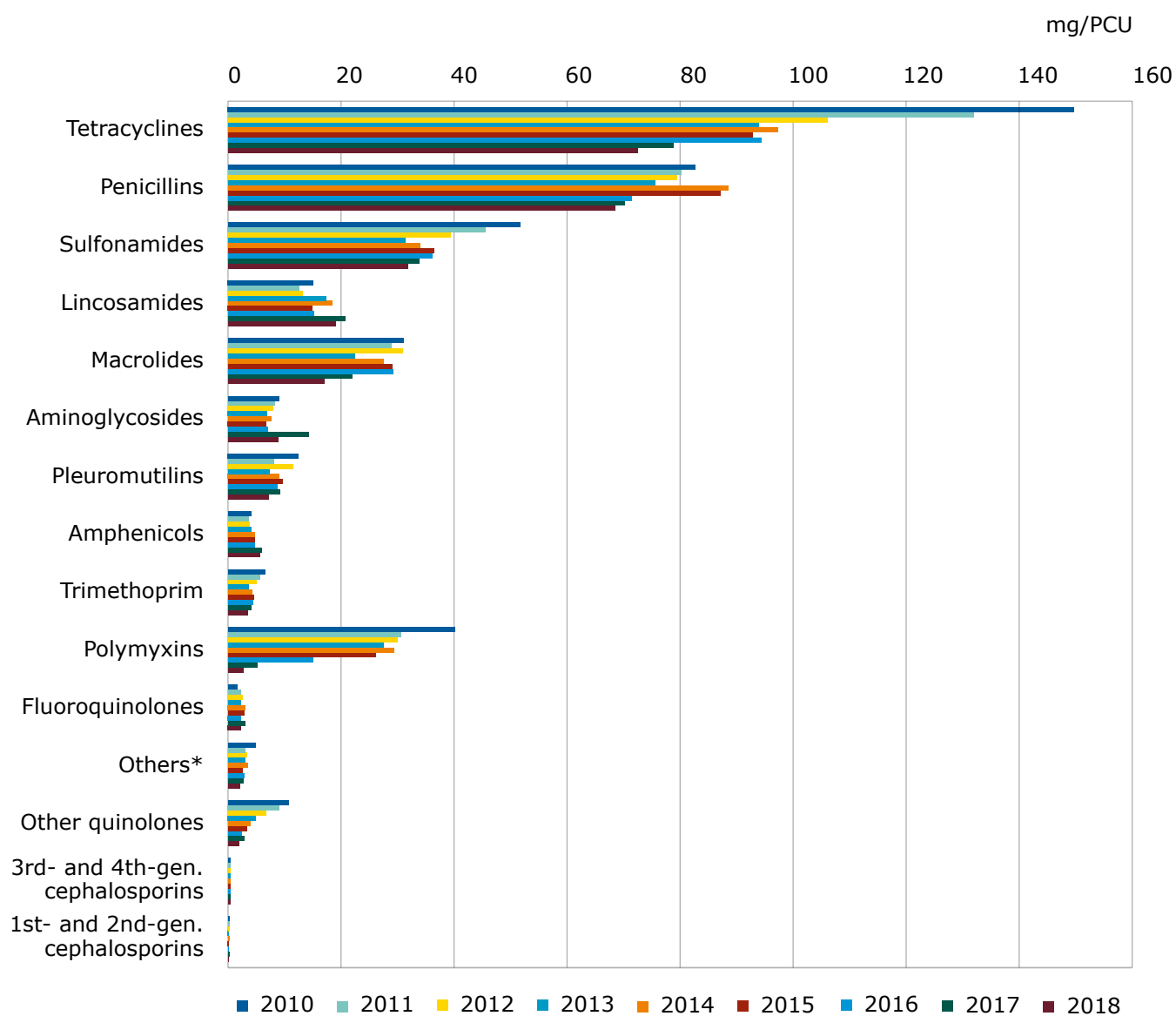


ITALY



CHANGES IN SALES (MG/PCU) ACROSS YEARS



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

A reduction in the consumption of antimicrobials was observed in 2018, with a 34% drop in sales (mg/PCU) during the period 2011-2018. This fall appears to be correlated with a general reduction in sales of most of the therapeutic classes, in particular tetracyclines, penicillins, sulfonamides, macrolides and polymyxins. The most-sold antimicrobial classes were tetracyclines and penicillins, accounting for 30% and 28% of total sales in 2018. From 2010 to 2018, an increase of 10% in PCU was observed.

In April 2019, Italy adopted a computerised traceability system along the veterinary medicine supply chain. The traceability system of the veterinary medicinal products includes a central database for detecting the movements of packs of veterinary medicinal products (sales data) along the production and distribution

chains, from the producer to the final recipient (pharmacy, veterinary, breeder), and an electronic veterinary prescription database for tracking veterinary medicinal products from their prescription by the veterinarian to the end user, who will administer it to the animals (use data).

Furthermore, an integrated system to categorise farms according to their risk of the selection and dissemination of antimicrobial resistance microorganisms is nearly completed. This system uses the data collected to trace veterinary medicinal products per animal category, active ingredient and therapeutic target. It also collects and analyses other aspects of animal health and welfare and enables the identification and the risk-level classification of farms.

Sales of 3rd- and 4th-generation cephalosporins were relatively stable during the period 2010 to 2018, accounting for approximately 0.1% of total sales each year. In 2018, the sales of 3rd- and 4th-generation cephalosporins were 0.39 mg/PCU, while the total sales figure for 25 countries was 0.18 mg/PCU in the same year.

In 2018, sales of fluoroquinolones were 2.33 mg/PCU, which is close to the aggregated sales for 25 countries in that year (2.42 mg/PCU). This sub-class accounted for 0.4% of total sales in 2010, while in 2018, the corresponding figure was 1.0%.

Sales of polymyxins fell by 91% in 2018 compared to sales in 2011. In 2018, sales of polymyxins in Italy were 2.67 mg/PCU, while aggregated sales for 25 countries were 3.31 mg/PCU in the same year. This sub-class represented 1% of total sales in 2018.

For other quinolones, sales fell by 79% in 2018 in comparison to sales in 2011. In 2018, sales of other quinolones were 1.95 mg/PCU, representing 1% of total sales, while aggregated sales for 25 countries were 0.27 mg/PCU.

Sales of macrolides fell by 41% in 2018 compared to sales in 2011. In 2018, sales were 17.11 mg/PCU, representing 7% of total annual sales.

The National Action Plan against Antimicrobial Resistance, launched on 2 November 2017, sets a target of a 10% reduction in three years (compared to 2016) in the use of critically important antimicrobials and a reduction of the sales of colistin to a recommended target of 5 mg/PCU.

In Italy, a fact-finding mission was carried out between 8 and 16 November 2018 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=4111&rep_inspection_ref=xxx

