

ECOANTIBIO: A SUCCESSFUL PUBLIC POLICY TO FIGHT AGAINST ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE IN THE VETERINARY SECTOR IN FRANCE

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INTRODUCTION

CONTEXT IN 2010

- 2 action plans against antimicrobial resistance (AMR) already existing in human medicine
 - France was among high antimicrobial users in the veterinary sector in Europe
 - Initiatives by some farmers organisations and veterinarians to decrease antimicrobial use
 - Awareness needed to be improved
- That is why it was decided to build an action plan to fight against AMR in the veterinary sector

There were assets to lean on:

- **Good governance:**
 - **Solid legal and regulatory framework regulating** producing, wholesaling, storage, prescription, delivery and use of veterinary medicinal products (VMP)
 - Professional organisations well identified and organised
- Distribution channels of VMP well identified
- Experts in labs
- Antimicrobial sales monitoring
- Monitoring of antimicrobial resistance in animal pathogens (Resapath)
- Monitoring of commensal and zoonotic bacteria

METHODS

STEP 1 Co-construction of the plan with all the stakeholders (2010-2011): working groups between stakeholders and competent authority

- Veterinarians: pets, horses, intensive productions, dairy and suckler cows, fish, beekeeping
 - Farmers
 - Scientists
 - Pharmaceutical laboratories
- Identification of possible actions and knowledge gaps

STEP 2 Framework of the plan

- Duration: 2012-2017
- Objectives:
 - Decrease by 25% animal exposure to antimicrobials
 - Decrease the use of critically important antimicrobials
- A name and a motto
- Actions:
 - Regulatory measures

Example 1: Restrict the use of critically important antimicrobials → Legal tools:

- Preventive use of critically important antimicrobials (CIA) is forbidden
- Curative and metaphylactic use possible only after:
 - ✓ Clinical examination or necropsy
 - ✓ Sampling and identifying the bacteria
 - ✓ Sensitivity testing

Example 2: Ban on discounts for antimicrobials sales

- Incentive measures → awareness campaign targeting pet owners and farmers
- Research
- Communication
- Monitoring

ÉCOANTIBIO
RÉDUIRE L'UTILISATION DES
ANTIBIOTIQUES VÉTÉRINAIRES

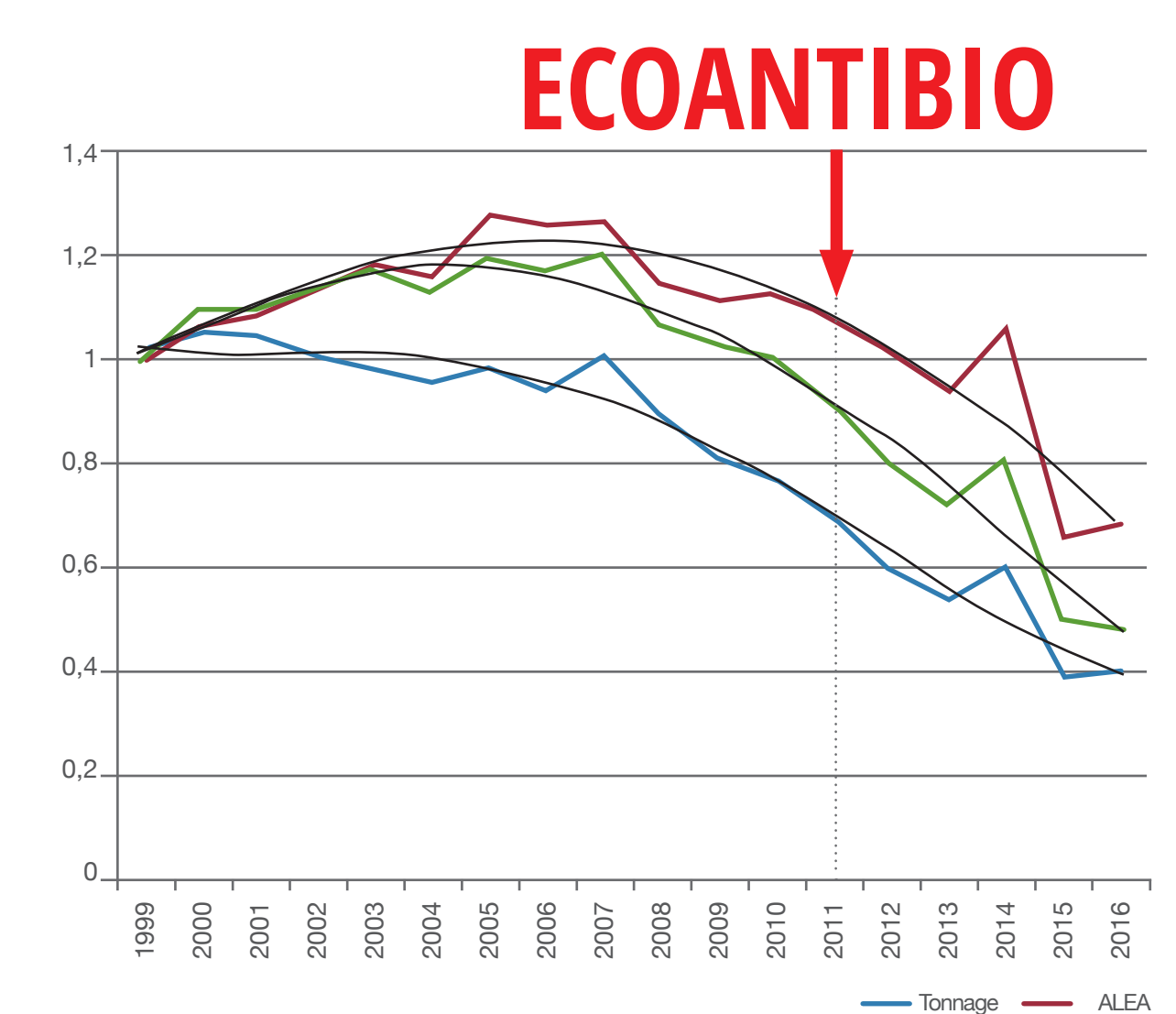


« Antibiotics are not automatic for us either »

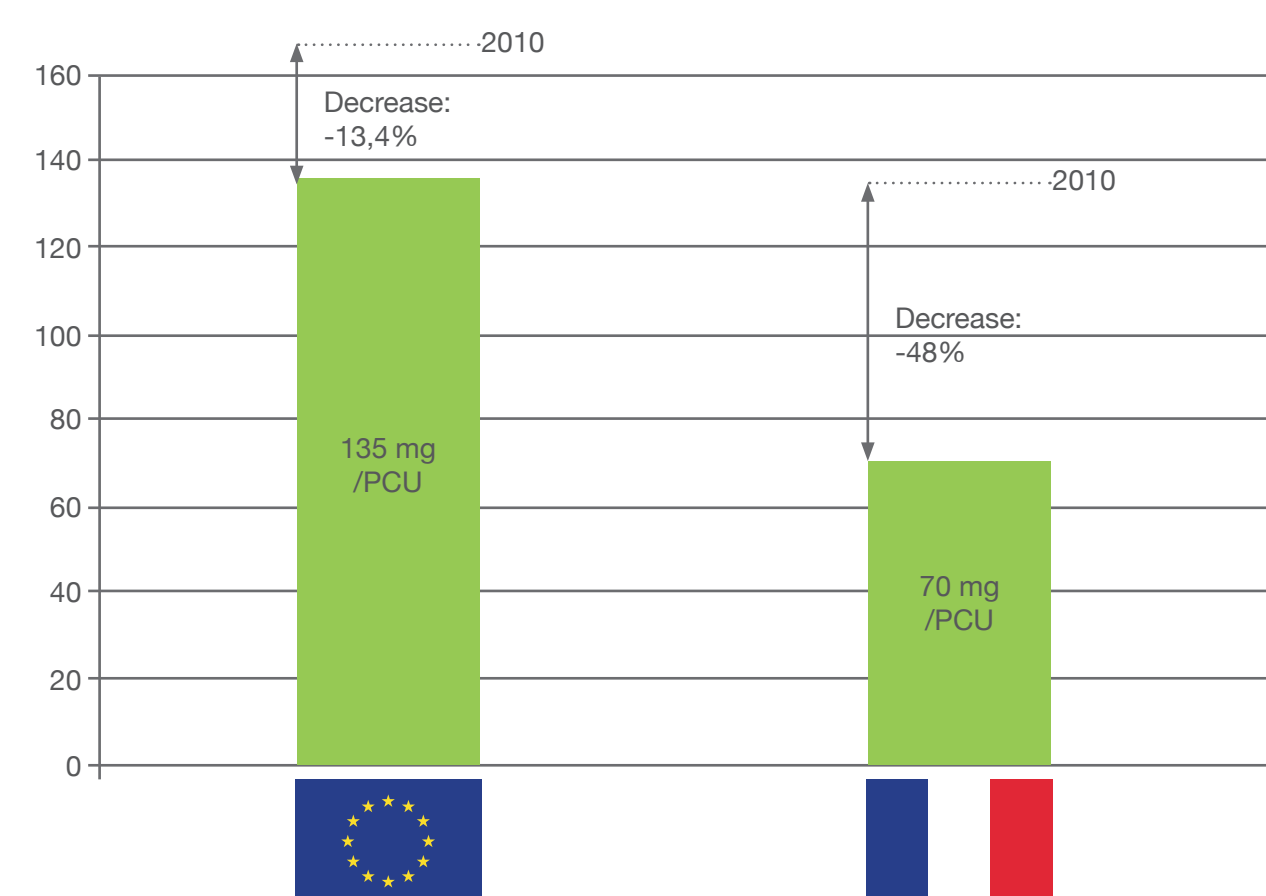
RESULTS

SUCCESS!

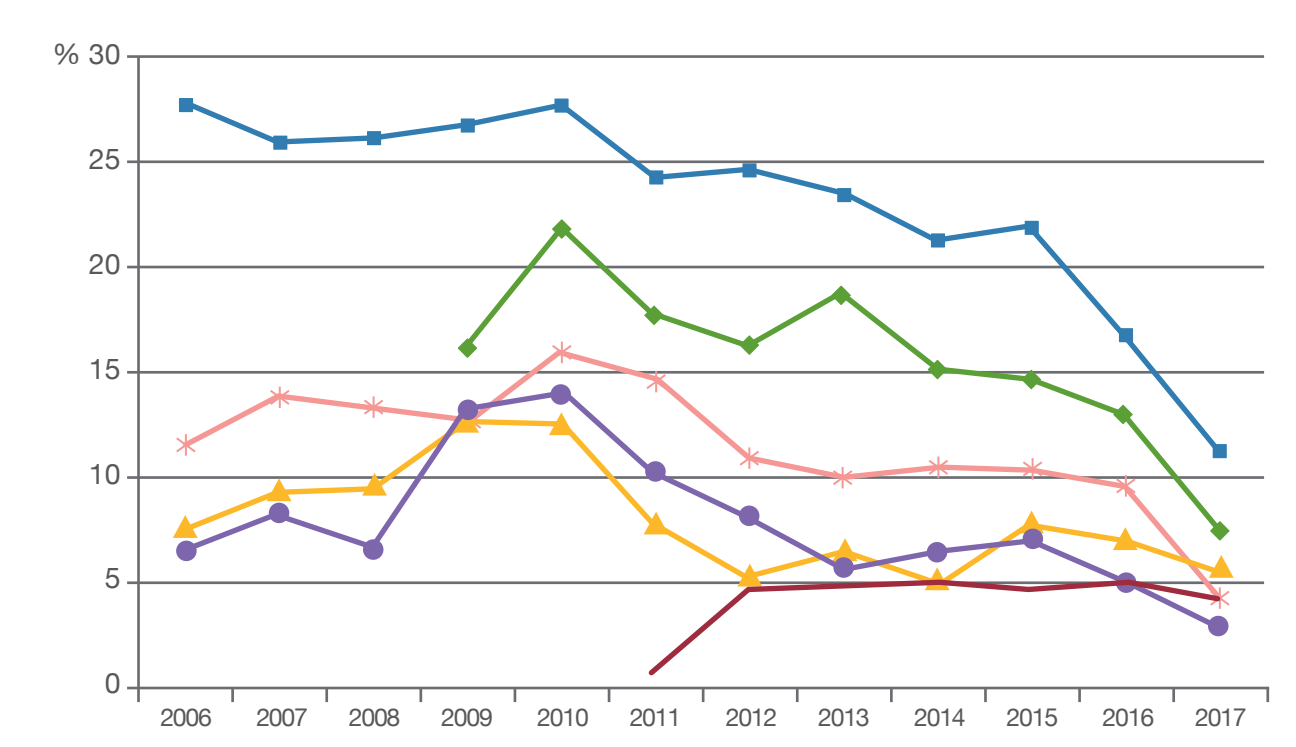
- **All antimicrobials in 2016:**
 - -37% exposure reduction vs 2011
- **Animal level of exposure to antimicrobials (ALEA) to critically important antimicrobials:**
 - -75% fluoroquinolones vs. 2013
 - -81% C3/C4 G vs. 2013
 - -55% Colistin vs. 2011
- AMR: downward trend since 2006 to most antimicrobials
- State financial support: 7.7 M € 2012-2016 (research, training, communication)



Evolution of indicators used to monitor antimicrobial use thanks to sales data, in all species, in France, between 1999 and 2016



Exposure of animals to antimicrobials in mg/ PCU in 2015



Resistance to fluoroquinolones in E. coli in 2017 in different animal species. Data from Resapath

WHAT COULD BE IMPROVED?

- Communicating to all the stakeholders on the results of research
- Regulatory measures: not enough controls to ensure correct and full implementation
- Some actions take more time to be implemented
- Not really in a One Health spirit

Main upcoming difficulty: keep farmers and vets involved

RECOMMANDATIONS

- Keep on the efforts and keep all stakeholders involved!
- Ecoantibio 2 was launched in 2017 with the following objectives:
 - Less regulatory measures and more incentive measures
 - Evaluate Ecoantibio 1 actions
 - Consolidate Ecoantibio 1
 - Promote Ecoantibio 1 at the national, European and international level
- Ecoantibio 2 aims to promote good husbandry practices and preventives measures for infectious diseases
- Better integration in the spirit of One Health: Ecoantibio 2 is part of the interministerial roadmap for controlling AMR in line with the European Union One Health Action Plan against AMR

2018 communication campaign targetting veterinarians and farmers: « antibiotics, as needed, when needed »



CONCLUSION

- Relying on political will
- Involving all public and private stakeholders:
 - Co-construction → confidence relationship → stakeholders accept regulatory measures and competent authority accept to delegate
- Make every one feel responsible for the fight against AMR
- Improving husbandry practices i.e. hygiene, farm building maintenance, animal health monitoring
- Reinforcing partnership between prescribers and animal owners
- Promoting prevention and alternatives such as vaccines

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