



**Antimicrobial Use and Antimicrobial Resistance
– a strategy for animal agriculture**

Forum 2014

NATIONAL FARMED ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE COUNCIL

Working Group

- **NFAHW Council** - Michel Major – (chair), Jim Fairles, Jennifer MacTavish, Scott Dingwell, Marc Cormier
- **Health Canada, Veterinary Drug Directorate** – Manisha Mehrotra
- **Public Health Agency of Canada** – David Leger
- **Canadian Animal Health Institute** – Jean Szkotnicki
- **Secretariat** – Ed Empringham

Council Focus

- Antimicrobial Use and Antimicrobial Resistance
- As related to food animal production
- Aware of and interacted with human health initiatives
- Influencing policy, regulation and research for all stakeholders

Concerns and Themes

- AMR is a large issue with a high level of public attention relating animal and human health concerns
- There is no clear national lead on the issue
- Animal agriculture is often identified as the source of AMR through uncontrolled AMU
- There are regulatory gaps with the existing provisions for Own Use Importation of veterinary drugs and Importation of veterinary Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients

Recommendations - context

The NFAHW Council believes:

- That the consideration of AMU and AMR is an urgent issue;
- that all stakeholders in Canada's animal agriculture have a responsibility for the prudent use of antimicrobials when they are required, respecting issues of both animal and human concern;
- that Canada should recognize the universality of responsibility for management of the problems resulting from the use, both domestically and internationally, of antimicrobials in humans, animal agriculture, companion animals and other uses; and
- that Canada should demonstrate leadership in domestic and international forums on this issue to create global recognition and change.

Recommendations

1. NFAHW Council recommends that stakeholders in Canada's animal agriculture industry support in principle the collaborative initiative announced April 10, 2014 by Health Canada and Canadian Animal Health Institute to work with other implicated stakeholders to:
 - Remove growth promotion and/or production claims of medically-important antimicrobial drugs
 - Develop options to strengthen the veterinary oversight of antimicrobial use in food animals.

Recommendations

2. The NFAHW Council recommends the stakeholders in Canada's animal agriculture industry support the regulatory modernization of Health Canada which was originally announced in May 2012.

Recommendations

3. The NFAHW Council recommends that the animal agriculture industry stakeholders follow the lead of the poultry sector in supporting the position of Health Canada on the ELDU of Category 1 drugs for preventative use.

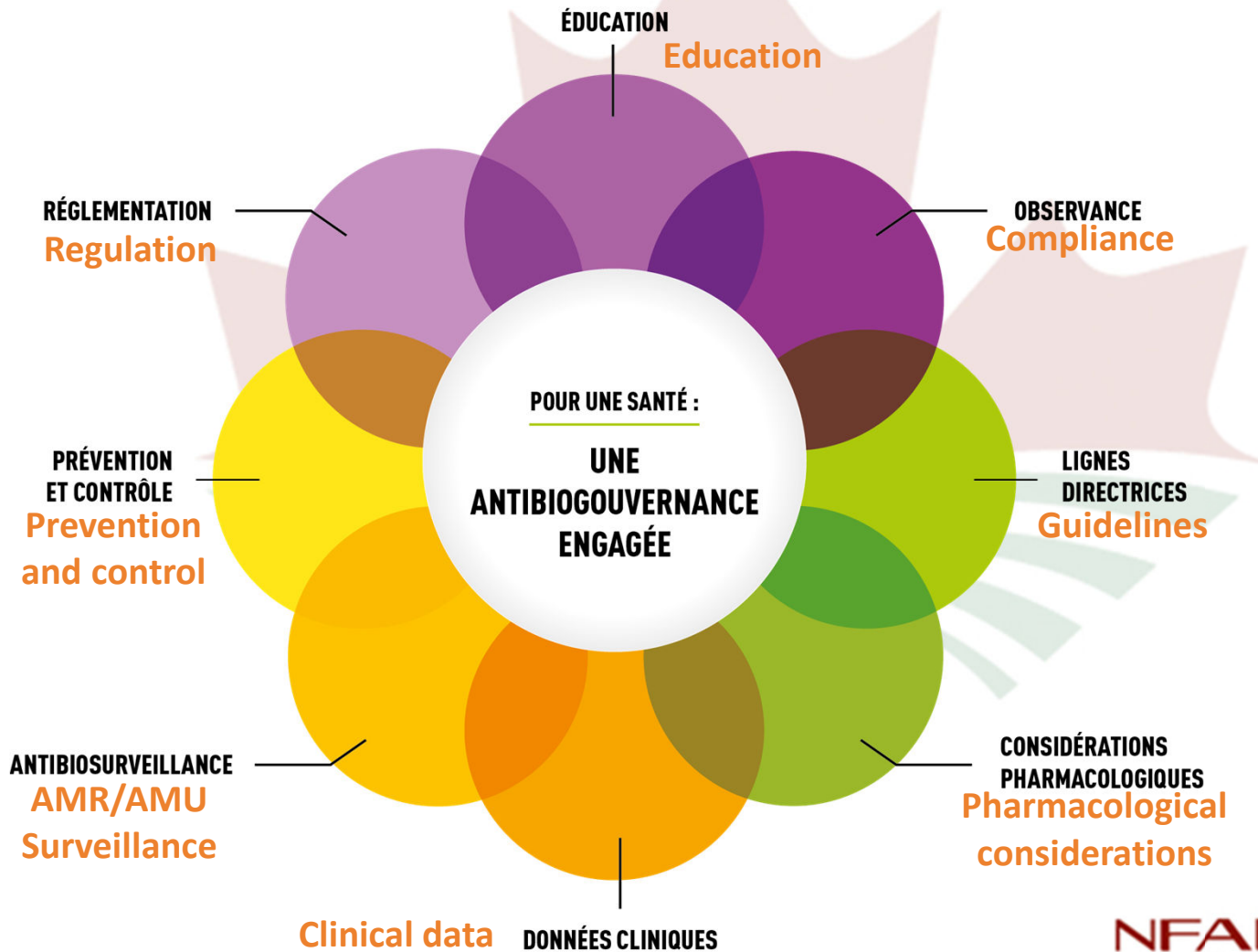
Recommendations

4. The NFAHW Council recommends that a national committee including all the main stakeholders be created under the lead of federal champions such as the Public Health Agency of Canada and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada. This committee will hold at least one annual meeting designed to encourage cross engagement of all stakeholders and will be responsible to coordinate the actions to be taken toward improvement of the use of antimicrobials, with an objective of achieving synchronization, complementarity and synergy of all the stakeholders initiatives related to the use of antimicrobials in animal and human medicine.

Antimicrobial stewardship for One Health

•A multidimensional approach is essential

10



Adapted from J. Scott Weese, Stephen W. Page et John F. Prescott, 2013

Recommendations

5. The NFAHW Council recommends that research priorities and funding programs include innovation in alternatives to the use or need for antimicrobials in animal agriculture.

Recommendations

6. The NFAHW Council recommends that CgFARAD receive committed funding from the federal government, the industry and public stakeholders to support the work of CgFARAD in residue avoidance as part of food safety and explore expansion of its scope to include consultation and recommendation on the use of antimicrobials in consideration of the potential for AMR.

Recommendations

7. The NFAHW Council recognizes the good work done by the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) with the Canadian Integrated Program for Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance (CIPARS). Still, the Council recommends that the surveillance of the use of antimicrobials be enhanced to improve quantification of the antimicrobials used in animal agriculture through additional mechanisms with the purpose of adequately assessing use by animal species, to help in implementing initiatives to reduce usage or to enhance better use. The data collected should be publicly accessible.

Recommendations

8. The NFAHW Council recommends the creation of a joint human and veterinary lexicon related to all aspects of “antibiosurveillance” to help achieve better public communication.

Next steps

The Council will maintain AMU/AMR in the context of One Health in its work plan.

The Council will initiate, in partnership with PHAC and AAFC as identified champions, a committee to address the issue of AMU/AMR in animal agriculture in 2015.

Council has solicited the support of the FPT Regulatory ADM committee for these two initiatives.