TRENDS IN ANTIMICROBIAL CONSUMPTION IN DANISH PIG PRODUCTION IN 2014-2017 AND THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 2018

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Background and Objectives

Antimicrobial consumption can either be measured in doses or in tonnes active compounds as the total consumption for the whole pig production or as relative consumption by considering changes in the composition of the production.

The purpose of this study was to elucidate the importance of different methods to determine the trend in antimicrobial consumption in Danish pig production.

Material & Methods

Data on antimicrobial consumption were collected from the national medicine database VetStat. Doses were defined as the amount of antimicrobial product for treatment of one kg of live weight pig. Data on the composition of pig production were collected from the Danish Pig Levy Fund. Antimicrobial consumption and pig production was calculated on three age groups; sows & piglets, weaners, and finishers.

Results

The total consumption measured in tonnes active compounds decreased by 12% from 2014 to 2017 but increased by 2% in the first six months of 2018. The total consumption measured in doses active compounds decreased by 11% from 2014 to 2017 and decreased by 2% in the first six months of 2018.

Doses consumed to produce a pig from birth to slaughter decreased by 13% from 2014 to 2017 and decreased by 6% in the first six months of 2018. Mg active compound consumed to produce a pig from birth to slaughter decreased by 15% from 2014 to 2017 and decreased by 3% in the first six months of 2018.

Discussion & Conclusion

The most suitable method to describe the trends in antimicrobial consumption are the number of doses consumed to produce a pig from birth to slaughter. This method makes it possible to consider increase in production and the change in the composition of the production as well as changes in types of antimicrobials used.