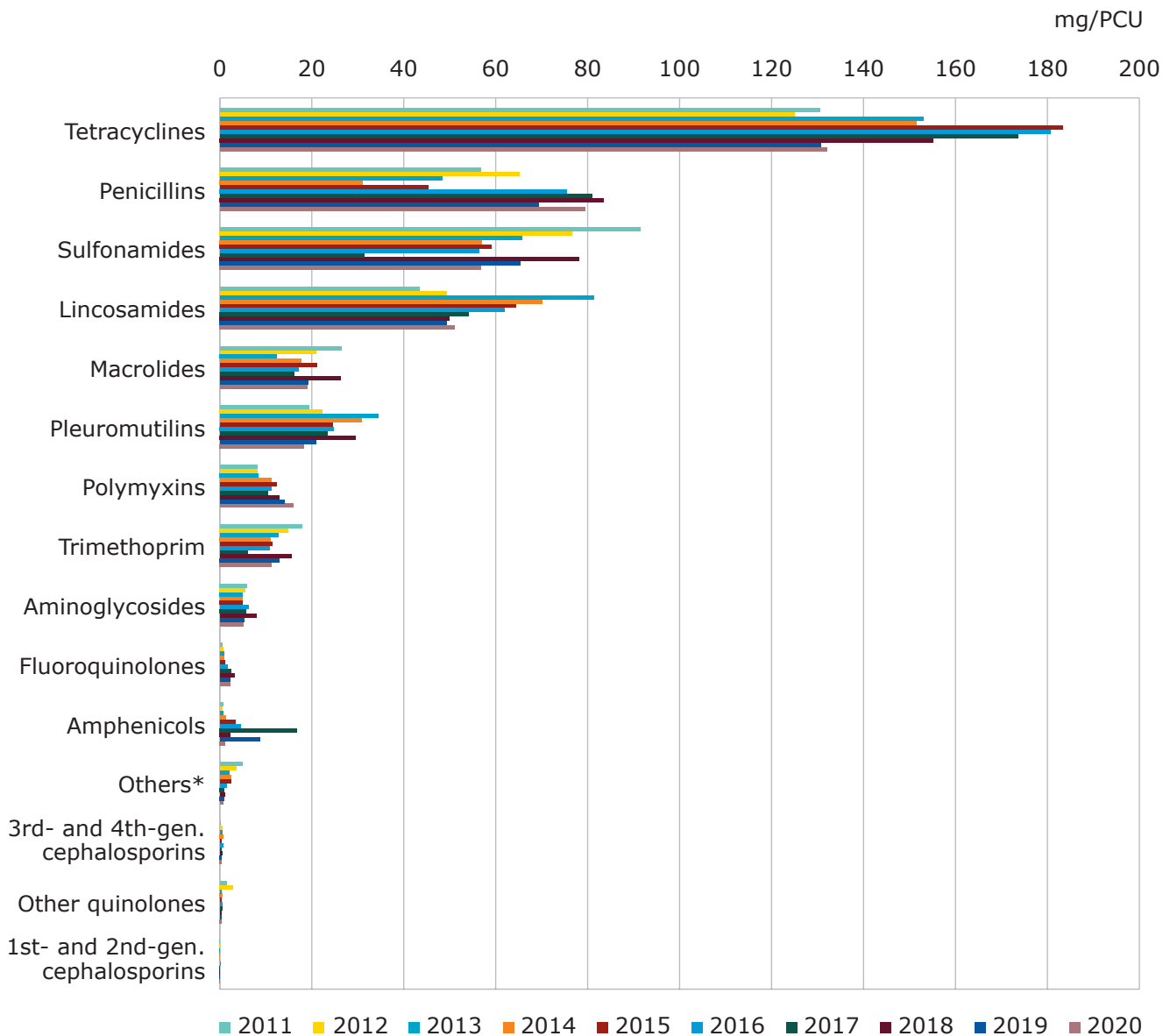




SALES TRENDS (MG/PCU) OF ANTIMICROBIAL VMPs FOR FOOD-PRODUCING ANIMALS

2011-2020



* The class 'Others' includes sales of rifaximin and spectinomycin (classified as 'Other antibacterials' in the ATCvet system).

Annual antimicrobial sales (mg/PCU) in Cyprus have fluctuated from 2011 (407.5 mg/PCU) to 2020 (393.9 mg/PCU), peaking at 466.5 mg/PCU in 2018 and from there dropping by 15.6% in 2020. It should be noted that, compared to other ESVAC-participating countries, the goat population in Cyprus is relatively high and accounts for a substantial share of the country's food-producing animal population. Living goats are not included in the PCU calculation for the ESVAC analysis, resulting in an underestimation of the PCU for Cyprus and, consequently, higher mg/PCU values. Based on national statistics for the number of goats

in Cyprus and an average treatment weight of 45 kg, the living goat PCU would have added an estimated 12,300 tonnes to the PCU for Cyprus in 2018. Thus, if living goats had been included in the PCU, total annual sales in mg/PCU would have been approximately 11% lower in 2018.

Sales of 3rd- and 4th-generation cephalosporins have fluctuated since 2011 (0.17 mg/PCU), peaking at 0.79 mg/PCU in 2014. In 2020 (0.43 mg/PCU), they accounted for 0.1% of Cyprus's total annual antimicrobial sales, a 151% and 1.2% increase in comparison to 2011 and 2019 (0.42 mg/PCU), respectively. Aggregated sales for the 25 countries were 0.16 mg/PCU. Sales of 1st- and 2nd-generation cephalosporins have remained consistently lower than sales of 3rd- and 4th-generation cephalosporins.

Fluoroquinolones sales increased by 502% from 2011 (0.52 mg/PCU) to 2018 (3.12 mg/PCU). In 2019 (2.25 mg/PCU) and 2020 (2.20 mg/PCU), the trend was reversed, with sales decreasing by 27.9% and 1.9% in comparison with the previous year, respectively. Aggregated sales for the 25 countries were 2.21 mg/PCU.

For other quinolones, despite some fluctuations, overall sales declined by 74.3%, from 1.51 mg/PCU in 2011 to 0.39 mg/PCU in 2020. Aggregated sales for the 25 countries were 0.16 mg/PCU.

Sales of polymyxins increased by 95.4% from 2011 (8.15 mg/PCU) to 2020 (15.93 mg/PCU), representing 2% and 4% of total annual sales, respectively. In 2020, sales of polymyxins grew by 13.6% in comparison with 2019 (14.03 mg/PCU). Aggregated sales for the 25 countries were 2.58 mg/PCU.

Sales of amphenicols fluctuated considerably over the years, starting at 0.67 mg/PCU in 2011, and peaking at 16.82 mg/PCU in 2017. In 2018, sales dropped to 2.32 mg/PCU but increased again in 2019 to 8.65 mg/PCU. 2020 registered a drop to 1.17 mg/PCU, 73.4% higher than in 2011.

Sales of both pleuromutilins and aminoglycosides have also fluctuated from 2011 to 2020, dropping by 5.2% and 13.9%, respectively, over the whole period.

A National Strategic Plan to combat antimicrobial resistance was published in December 2012 by the Ministry of Health under the "One Health" approach. This plan is managed by the National Committee on Antibiotics, which includes representatives from both the human and veterinary medicine fields. Activities introduced with the National Strategic Plan focus mainly on human health, although there are some actions in the veterinary field, such as improving diagnosis and use of antibiotics in animals and specifying measures to encourage prudent use of antimicrobials.

Moreover, a separate and specific action plan was considered necessary to address the high level of veterinary antimicrobial sales in Cyprus over the last few years. To that end, a five-year action plan to combat antimicrobial resistance was prepared by the veterinary services and approved during the first half of 2018 by the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment. This plan contains several types of measures, including: awareness-raising campaigns; strengthening prevention of infections in food-producing animals; controls on the use of highest priority critically important antimicrobials for human medicine; and recommendations on prudent use of antimicrobials in line with published EC guidance.

A fact-finding mission was carried out in Cyprus between 10 and 14 October 2016 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=3759&rep_inspection_ref=xxx

