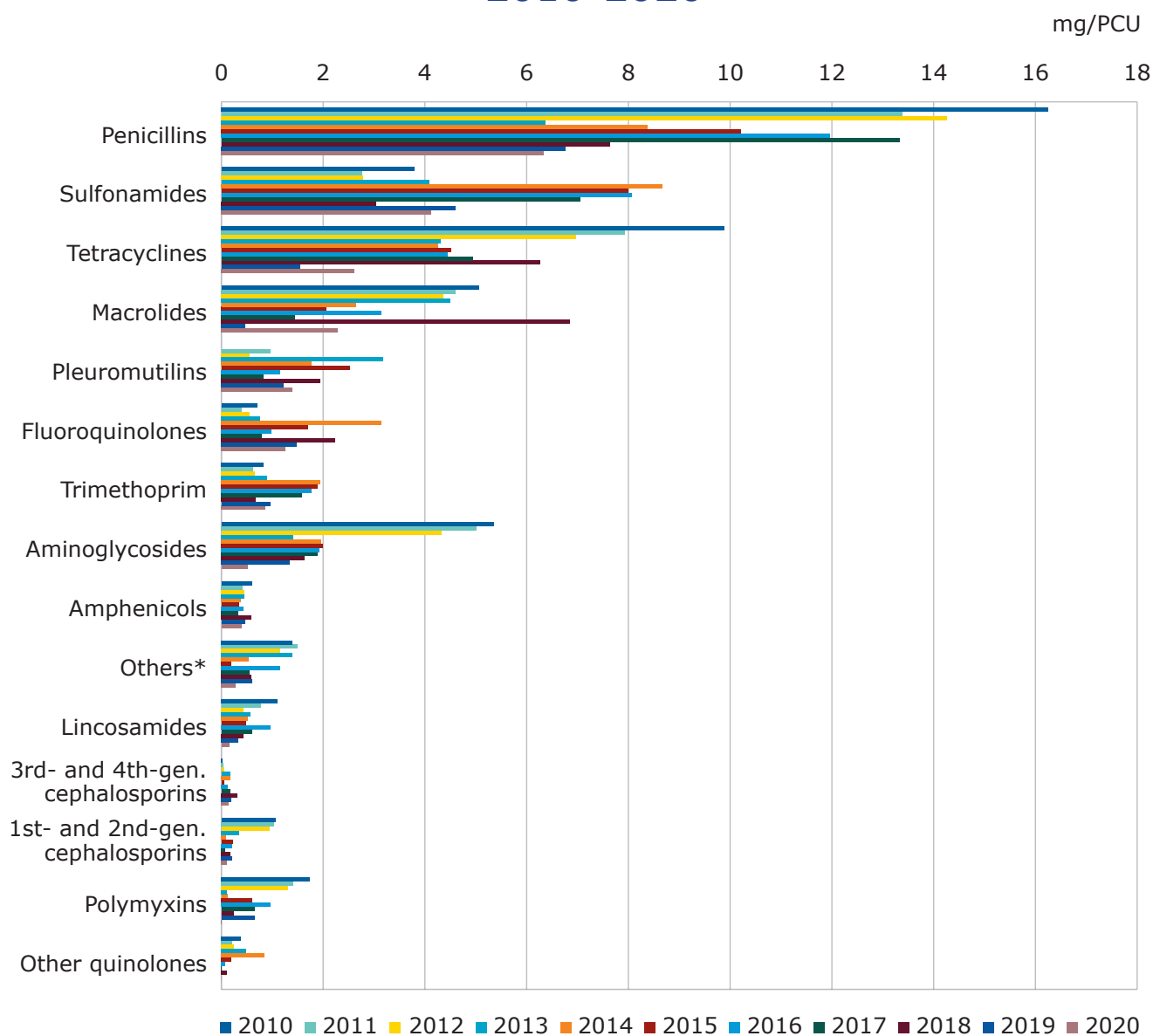




SALES TRENDS (MG/PCU) OF ANTIMICROBIAL VMPs FOR FOOD-PRODUCING ANIMALS

2010-2020



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

From 2011 to 2020, sales of veterinary antimicrobial agents for food-producing animals (in mg/PCU) in Lithuania fluctuated, but a 50.2% drop was observed in total. Between 2019 and 2020, a minor change from 20.8 mg/PCU to 20.5 mg/PCU was noted. Currently, there are no precise data available that can explain the observed changes in the sales patterns of veterinary antimicrobial agents in Lithuania.

The State Food and Veterinary Service (SFVS), together with the Ministry of Health, developed a national action plan against antimicrobial resistance for 2017–2020. Moreover, SFVS adopted its own 2015–2020 action plan against antimicrobial resistance in the veterinary and agricultural sectors. Key elements of the antimicrobial resistance action plan are: prudent use of antibiotics in animals; restricting off-label use; reducing overall sales of antibiotics for use in animals; and organising training for veterinarians, farmers, animal owners and feed manufacturers on the prudent use of antimicrobial agents in animals.

The decline from 2010 to 2020 is mainly accounted for by a reduction in reported sales of tetracyclines, penicillins and aminoglycosides. Sales of penicillins fluctuated during this period, with a peak in 2010 of 16.25 mg/PCU and a trough in 2020 of 6.34 mg/PCU. The corresponding figures for tetracyclines were 9.39 mg/PCU in 2010 and 2.61 mg/PCU in 2020, and those for aminoglycosides were 5.35 mg/PCU and 0.51 mg/PCU, respectively.

Sales (mg/PCU) of 3rd- and 4th-generation cephalosporins fluctuated during the period of analysis and were higher in 2020 (0.14 mg/PCU) than in 2011 (0.04 mg/PCU). In 2020, aggregated sales of 3rd- and 4th-generation cephalosporins VMPs were 0.16 mg/PCU for the 25 countries. In 2010, sales of this subclass accounted for 0.05% of total sales, while in 2020, the figure was 0.67%.

Sales of fluoroquinolones fluctuated during the study period and were higher in 2020 (1.26 mg/PCU) than in 2011 (0.39 mg/PCU). In 2020, aggregated sales for the 25 countries were 2.21 mg/PCU.

Although sales of other quinolones also fluctuated during this period, peaking in 2014 at 0.85 mg/PCU, there were no sales reported in 2019 and 2020. The aggregated sales for the 25 countries were 0.16 mg/PCU.

Sales of polymyxins accounted for 3.6% and 0.001% of total sales in 2010 and 2020, respectively. In 2020, sales of polymyxins were 0.0003 mg/PCU, while aggregated sales for the 25 countries were 2.58 mg/PCU.

