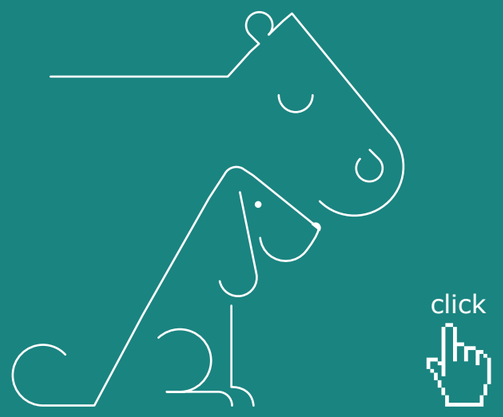
EMA

healthy animals // healthy people



Medicines for animals – safe and effective

The well-being of people and animals is closely interlinked. Medicines to treat and prevent diseases in animals promote their health and welfare. They also make it safer for people and animals to live in close proximity and protect the supply of food produced from animals.

Medicines for animals undergo the same rigorous scientific assessment as medicines for human use.

Companies that want to market a new veterinary medicine throughout the European Union (EU) submit an application for authorisation to the European Medicines Agency (EMA) which is then carefully evaluated by EMA's scientific experts. An authorisation will only be recommended if the medicine's benefits outweigh the risks for the animal, the owner and the environment.

Every medicine in the EU is continuously monitored. New information received is scrutinised and, if necessary, EMA will change the way the medicine is used.

Protecting consumer safety

If a medicine is supposed to be used in a food-producing animal, it needs to be safe for people to eat the food that comes from this animal. The maximum residue limits (MRLs) recommended by EMA reflect how much residue of the veterinary medicine in food derived from a treated animal is safe for consumption. The MRL is established before the medicine for food-producing animals is authorised in the EU.

Support for innovation

EMA encourages research and development of new veterinary medicines. The Agency provides scientific and regulatory advice to help developers successfully translate progress in veterinary science into new medicines for animals.

New technologies can lead to new types of medicines and therapies. EMA's Ad Hoc Expert Group on Veterinary Novel Therapies (ADVENT) provides guidance on development and authorisation.

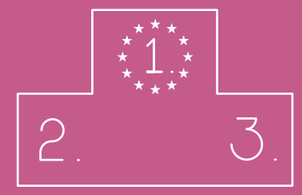
Medicines for all creatures, great and small

Developers of veterinary medicines take care of a wide range of animal species and diseases. When the market for veterinary medicines is very small, EMA stimulates the development of new medicines through its minor use / minor species (MUMS) or limited markets policy.

Incentives can include a reduction of the amount of data requested to support a marketing authorisation application as well as free scientific advice and reduced application fees.

A place for excellence

In the European regulatory network, the EU's best and brightest minds work together for safe and effective medicines. Innovative medicines require specialised scientific expertise. Thanks to cooperation across the EU, EMA has access to the best scientific experts and can source the right people with the right expertise at the right time.



Fighting antimicrobial resistance

The rise in antimicrobial resistance shows the connection between animal and human health. The use of antimicrobials in animals can contribute to bacteria becoming resistant and these resistant bacteria may be transferred to people through food.

The Agency supports global efforts to combat antimicrobial resistance through the collection of data on the use of antimicrobials in the veterinary sector in the EU. EMA also provides guidance on prudent use of antibiotics in animals to limit the development of resistant bacteria.

→ EU AMR Action Plan

EUROPEAN MEDICINES AGENCY
SCIENCE MEDICINES HEALTH

For more information on how EMA works on veterinary medicines please visit our website.

www.ema.europa.eu/vet