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TITLE

EVOLUTION OF ANTIMICROBIAL USE ON FRENCH PIG FARMS FROM 2010 TO 2016 THROUGH THE INAPORC PANELS

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CONTENT

Background and Objectives

The French Ecoantibio plan was a success: the exposure of pigs to antibiotics decreased by 41% from 2012 to 2016, while the initial target was -25%. The purpose of this study was to understand the major areas of reduction in antibiotic use through the INAPORC panels, which were surveys of representative samples of farms performed in 2010, 2013 and 2016.

Material & Methods

In 2016, the INAPORC panel was based on 143 farms, randomly selected from the National Swine Database of Identification (BDPORC). These volunteer farms were representative of the French pig herd population, characterized through activity, localization and size.

Results

From 2010 to 2016, the decrease in ALEA (Animal Level of Exposure to Antimicrobials) estimated by Anses-ANMV (-47%) and the INAPORC panels (-52%) was similar. However, the ALEA estimated by the INAPORC panels in 2010, 2013 and 2016 were always lower than those of Anses-ANMV, suggesting overestimation of the volume allocated to pigs during the stratification of sales by species. Over the six years, the mean number of treatment days for sows remained stable (-7%). In contrast, it significantly decreased for suckling piglets (28%), weaned piglets (-70%) and fatteners (71%). Other major results included a considerable decrease in the use of critically important antibiotics (kept in priority for human medicine), premixes and colistin. This did not result in increased use of other digestive antibiotics or in a massive use of zinc oxide (16% of farms using zinc oxide in 2016).

Discussion & Conclusion

The INAPORC panel contributes to providing detailed references on antibiotic use in the French pig production and demonstrates the continued commitment to improving current practices.