

Press release
Stockholm, Januar 2018

Fewer dogs treated with antibiotics

AniCura, one of Europe's leading providers of high-quality veterinary care for companion animals, has completed a major European study of how antibiotics are used within veterinary care. The study, which is part of AniCura's quality program, involved over 3,200 dogs in seven countries and shows a downward trend in the use of antibiotics.

For the second year in a row, AniCura measured the use of antibiotics for 3,231 dogs treated at veterinary clinics in Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Germany, Austria, Switzerland and the Netherlands. In total, 13 per cent of the dogs in the study were prescribed antibiotics, which is slightly less than in 2016. The most common reason for prescribing antibiotics was to prevent infections in connection with surgery. Compared to last year's study, more than half of the clinics have reduced their use of antibiotics.

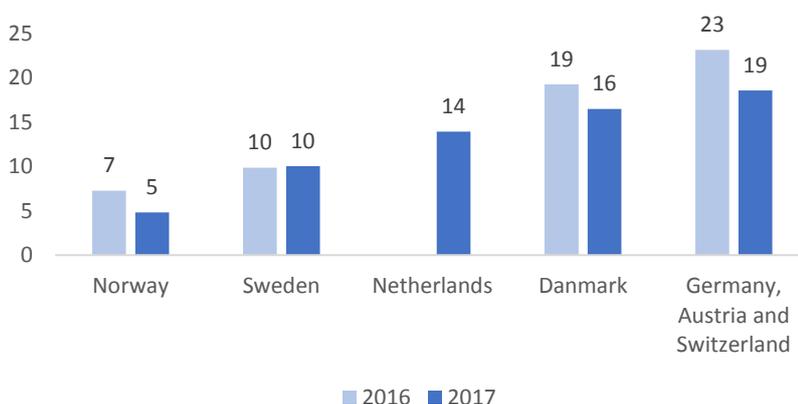
- We are pleased that our efforts to improve hygiene and reduce the use of antibiotics are leading to measurable results throughout Europe, says Ulrika Grönlund, Group Medical Quality Manager at AniCura.

In AniCura's study, Norway was the country where veterinarians used the least antibiotics. Only 5 per cent of the dogs in the study there were prescribed antibiotics. In Sweden and the Netherlands, 10 and 14 per cent respectively were prescribed antibiotics. Veterinary clinics in Denmark, Germany, Austria and Switzerland alike reduced their use of antibiotics during the year, even though more antibiotics are prescribed in these countries in relative terms.

- The trend is positive although there are still country differences in how and when veterinarians use antibiotics. There are no direct medical reasons behind these differences, it is more about working methods and procedures. In general, we can all become better at administering antibiotics only when really necessary, says Ulrika Grönlund.

The study of antibiotics use in European veterinary care was carried out in October under AniCura's quality program (QualiCura) and is part of AniCura's efforts to identify, follow up and reduce the unnecessary use of antibiotics for companion animals.

Percentage of dogs given antibiotics (%)





For further information, please contact

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