

Agreed 13th November 2018



An Roinn Talmhaíochta,
Bia agus Mara
Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine

FSAI Retail Forum's statement of intent around the responsible use of antibiotics in food production systems

Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) is when antimicrobials, particularly antibiotics, are no longer effective to treat infections. AMR is a global public health threat that cannot be tackled by any one Stakeholder Grouping, Government Department, Country, or International Organisation alone. Ireland's policy to address the global threat of AMR is very much focused around a 'One Health' approach to address this challenge for the human health, animal health and environmental sectors.

The overall goal of Ireland's National Action Plan on AMR ([iNAP](#)) is to protect public health by ensuring antimicrobials are only being used in accordance with international best practice. iNAP also recognises that it is essential to use antibiotics to treat outbreaks of bacterial diseases in animals if animal welfare is to be protected, and the spread of zoonotic diseases from animals to humans is to be controlled. For this reason, the Retail Forum does not support any move towards lifetime antibiotic free food production systems, rather it seeks to promote responsible use of antibiotics.

The Retail Forum aspires to support producers who adhere to principals of responsible antibiotic use, namely:

- Right **veterinary advice**
- Right **animal that requires antibiotic treatment**
- Right **veterinary medicine**
- Right **dose**
- Right **duration of treatment**
- Right **disposal of veterinary medicine**

The following Retail Forum members have signed up to this statement of intent for their own brand products:

Aldi, BWG Foods (Glenmór), Iceland, Lidl Ireland GmbH, M&S, Musgrave Retail Partners (SuperValu and Centra) & Musgrave Wholesale Partners (Daybreak, Musgrave Excellence, Butcher's Select and Simply Meat) and Tesco

The statement of intent is supported by **Retail Ireland**