

Best practices on prudent use of antimicrobials in veterinary sector

- German Perspective -

BTSF ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE „One Health“

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Malaga

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Timeline of regulations for the use of antibiotics



Niedersächsisches Landesamt
für Verbraucherschutz und
Lebensmittelsicherheit

2000: Guidelines for Veterinary Medicine

2008: DART – Antimicrobial Resistance Strategy

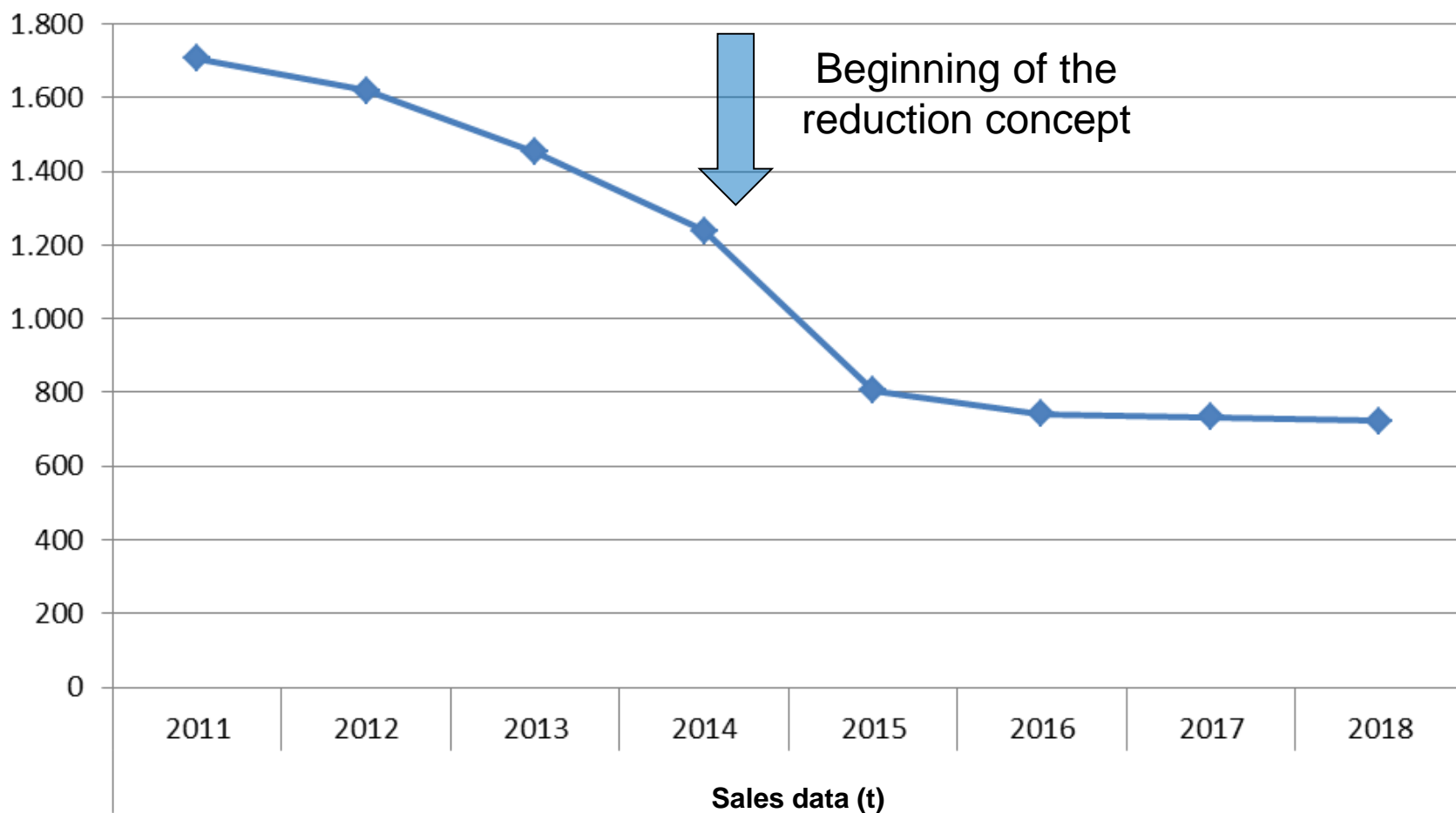
2011: Sales Register of veterinary antimicrobial agents

2014: Amendment of the Medicinal Products Act

2018: Amendment of veterinarian law

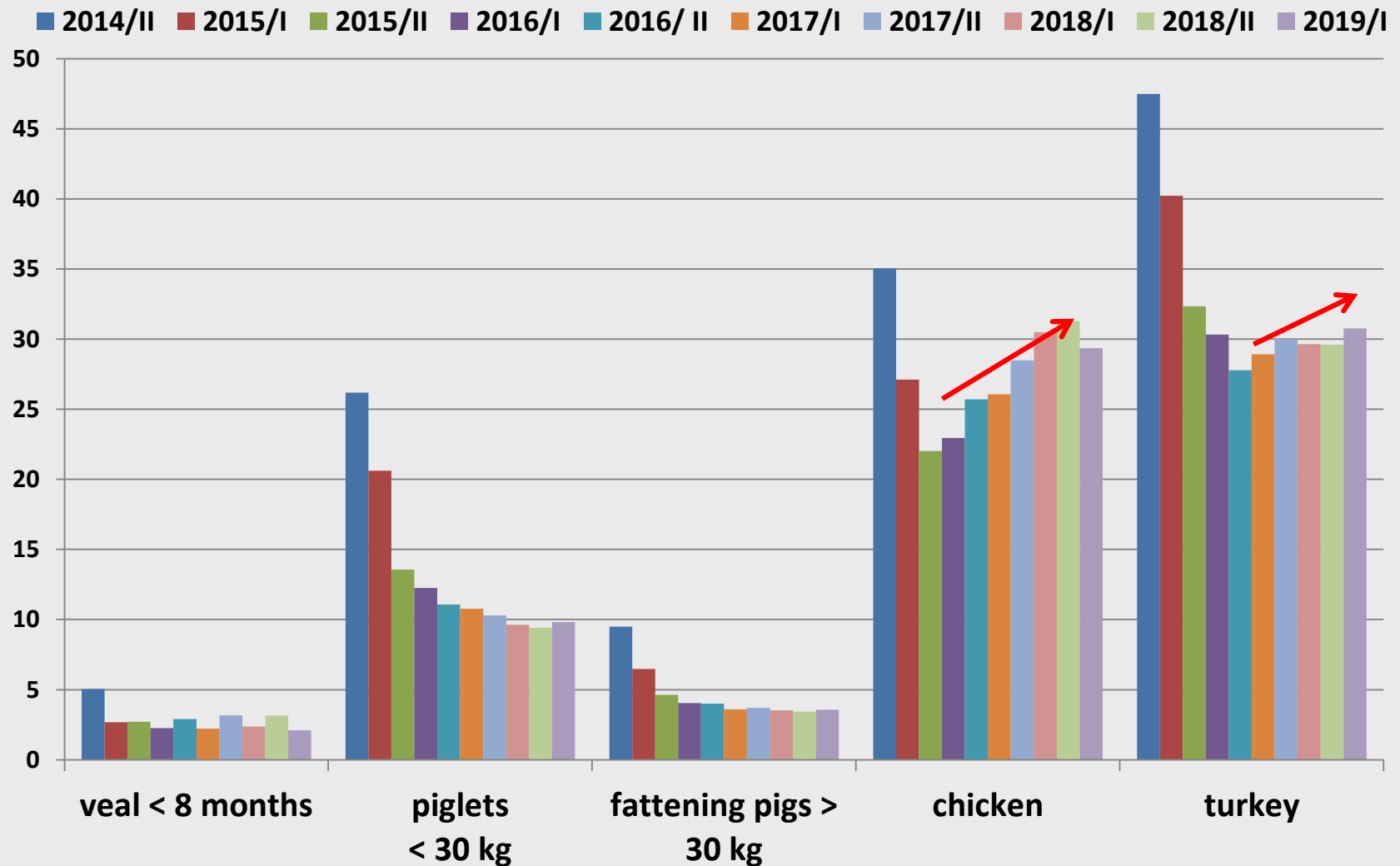
Tons of antibiotics sold in Germany (veterinary)

Sales data of antibiotics



- **For farmers**
fattening cattle, pigs, broilers and turkeys
have to report from a minimum number of:
 - 20 cattle (divided betw. veal / bulls)
 - 250 pigs (divided betw. piglets / fattening pig)
 - 1 000 turkeys
 - 10 000 broilers
- the use of antibiotics **in nationwide database**
“Hi-Tier”
 - farmspecific treatment frequency/nationwide key figures
→ nationwide benchmarking/index every 6 months

Development in nationwide index:



→ Antibiotic reduction plan

- Farmspecific management plan established by farmer/veterinarian
- with specific/individual actions to improve animal health and reduce antibiotics

→ Audits conducted by authorities

- For example the LAVES (my office)
- Checking diagnoses, lab results, effects of the veterinary advices given and future action plan

Through inspections/audits the authorities can issue orders to the farmer like:

- To supplement the antibiotic reduction plan
- Compliance with guidelines
- Additional measures like vaccination of the animals
- Improvements of the animal keeping
(feeding, hygiene, way/type of fattening, stable equipment and stocking density)

Previous regulations for veterinarians



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Background information:

The veterinarian runs his own pharmacy dispensing the medication/antibiotics he prescribes.

(So called ‚Dispensierrecht‘ or ‚Hausapotheke‘)

Requirements/Regulations to do so:

- only for animals under his care
- appropriate extend of physical examination/diagnostics
- Verification of orderly use
- Success control of the treatment

New regulations for veterinarians (2018)



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Treating an **animal group** (e.g. cattle, broilers) under the following conditions a **resistance test** (antibiogram) **is obligatory**:

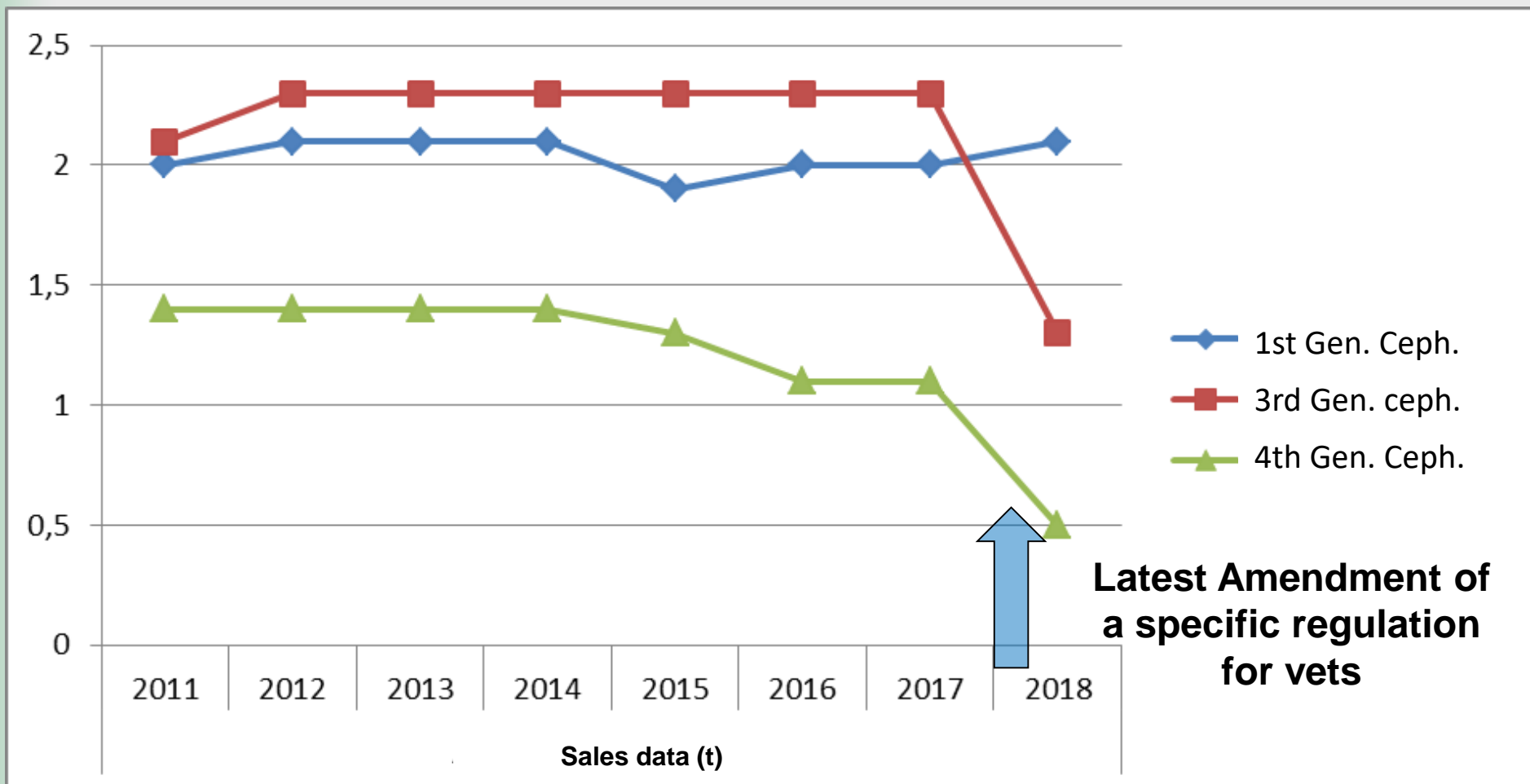
- Switch of antibiotic regime during therapy
- Repeated/long-term use (>7 days)
- Cephalosporines 3rd/4th generation and fluorquinolones
- The use of more than 1 antibiotic at once
- Deviation of the official drug approval

- The use of **critical important antibiotics** to humans (CIAs) like
 - **3rd and 4th generation cephalosporines**
 - **fluorchinolones**in cattle, pigs, turkeys, broilers, dogs, cats (exceptions)
is **only allowed**, if drug is **approved for the animal species!**

(Reclassification of the official drug approval is usually not legit. So called ‚Umwidmung‘)

- **Veterinarian/his pharmacy gets inspected by authorities regularly** focussing on:
 - Documentation
 - Performed diagnostics/lab test (e.g. antibiogram)
 - Distribution behavior of antibiotics
 - Use of reserve antibiotics (CIAs)

Recent effects on cephalosporine use



- Actions taken already have achieved a more prudent/responsible use of antibiotics.
 - Outlook: Focus on highly critical antibiotics?
- Farm-specific management plans have proven their positive effects and demonstrate alternatives beside the use of antibiotics
 - Outlook: Further improvement of keeping conditions?
- Nationwide database actual only for fattening animals
 - Outlook: Database for all animals?

**Thank you
very much for your
attention!**

