

Does duration of withdrawal period after oxytetracycline treatment vary across countries?

Work undertaken as part of RIBMINS COST Action – see more on <https://ribmins.com/>

Methods and Data

We collected data on withdrawal periods after IM use of 100 mg/ml oxytetracycline in pigs



Data represent 68 products from 29 countries



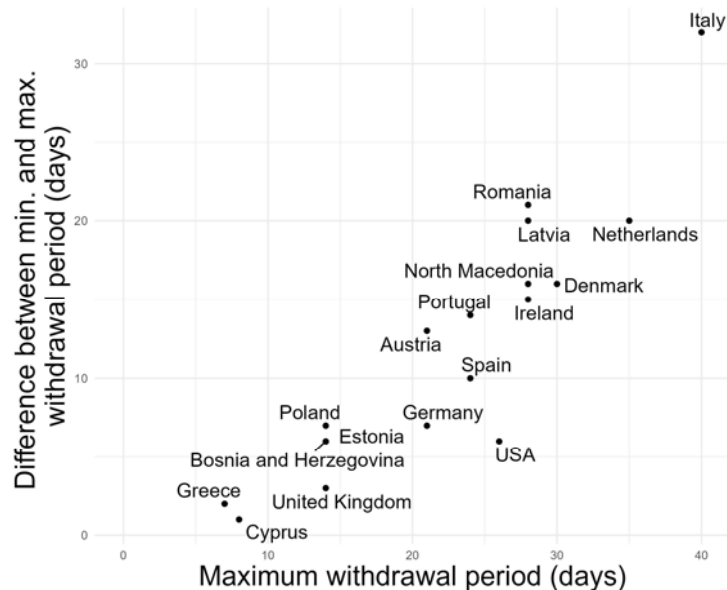
We evaluated:

- 1) effect of pig meat export
- 2) year of market authorisation
- 3) geographical region
- 4) formulation

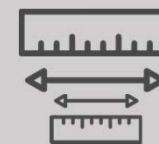


Outcome

Withdrawal periods varied from 5-40 days. Major pig exporters and long-acting products have longer withdrawal periods



Discussion



The variation in withdrawal period may have implications when pigs are delivered to abattoir by mistake before end of withdrawal period



Variation is likely caused by lack of harmonisation in assessment methodology between countries



Old products should be re-evaluated – and until then, the amounts of drugs left at time of slaughter should be calculated

Perspectives: In the case of animals delivered too early, we suggest using a risk-based approach to estimate risk at time of slaughter through calculation of concentration of a given veterinary medicinal product instead of relying only on the withdrawal period

Reference: Lund et al., 2023. *Food Control*.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.foodcont.2023.110071>

Graphical abstract by Daniel Lund