



50 Research paper

**Determinants Associated with Veterinary Antimicrobial Prescribing in Farm Animals in the Netherlands: A Qualitative Study** by Speksnijder, D. C., Jaarsma, A. D. C., van der Gugten, A.C., Verheij, T. J. M., and J.A. Wagenaar  
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in **Significant Impact Group(s)**: Prudent use AB \ Veterinarian

Species targeted: Pigs;Poultry;Dairy;Beef;Sheep;

Age: Young;Adult;

Outcome Parameter(s): Reduced AMU

**Summary:** Veterinarians are responsible for prescribing and overseeing antimicrobial use (AMU) in animals. An understanding of veterinarians' prescribing practices can help to design interventions to reduce AMU in farming. This Dutch study identified factors that influence farm veterinarian prescribing. Research interviews with eleven farm veterinarians were conducted and analysed. There were many conflicting interests identified regarding antimicrobial prescribing by veterinarians. A veterinarian's professional obligation to reduce animal suffering, financial dependency on clients, risk avoidance, concerns about own skills, lack of farmers' compliance to veterinary recommendations, public health interests and personal beliefs regarding their contribution to AMR, were found to be factors in antimicrobial prescribing behaviour of farm veterinarians. Interventions to change prescribing behaviour could address veterinary attitudes, advisory skills and provide tools to deal with (perceived) pressure from farmers to prescribe antimicrobials. Policy measures could support farm veterinarians to shift to a more independent animal health consultant role.

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**Where to find the original material:**

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/zph.12168>; <https://doi.org/10.1111/zph.12168>

**Country:** NL