



130 Research report

**Mastitis treatment—Reduction in antibiotic usage in dairy cows**

by Krömker, V., and Leimbach S.

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In **Significant Impact Groups:**

AMU reduction strategies \ Specific alternatives

Species targeted: Dairy;

Age: Not stated;

**Summary:**

Reduction in Antibiotic Usage (AMU) in dairy cows due to mastitis by implementation of smart, evidence-based selection criteria requires increased diagnostic efforts. When the identification of therapy-worthy animals as well as treatment-requiring mastitis-causing pathogens succeeds in a rapid and reliable manner, the reduction of AMU by ~50% in treatment of clinical mastitis and ~30% in antibiotic dry cow treatment (amount of uninfected cows) is feasible. Progress in the development of therapeutic alternatives and further investigations make a further reduction in AMU seem likely. However, the most effective and contemporary methods for decreasing AMU in dairy production comprise the implementation of evidence-based mastitis therapy concepts and selective dry cow treatment. Avoidance of wrong decisions with unfavourable long-term effects and related adverse consequences for animal welfare requires a systematic udder health monitoring of dairy farms.

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**Where to find the original material:**

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/rda.13032> ; <https://doi.org/10.1111/rda.13032>

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