



231 Research paper

**National colistin sales versus colistin resistance in Spanish pig production**

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**In Significant Impact Groups:**

AMU reduction strategies \ Monitoring and surveillance Antibiotic

Species targeted: Pigs;

Age: Young;Adult;

**Summary:**

Antimicrobials, particularly colistin, have been the first choice to control a certain type of bacteria (Gram-negative) in pig production, and often used preventively. However, colistin is now considered to be a last resort antibiotic in human clinical practice. In 2015, the colistin resistance gene (*mcr-1*) was discovered in China. This *mcr-1* gene was then reported in Southern Europe in 2016 in bacteria from farm animals (poultry and pigs). Currently, eight *mcr* genes have been reported (*mcr-1* to 8)). In 2016, the EMA (European Medicine Agency) aimed to reduce use of colistin in animals in the European Union and a voluntary strategic plan to reduce colistin use in pigs was introduced in Spain. A total of 70% of Spanish pig production companies joined the program, representing 80% of Spanish pig production. The impact of these recommendations in the colistin resistance levels in pigs in Spain is reported in this article.

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**Where to find the original material:**

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