



312 Research paper

To prescribe or not to prescribe? A factorial survey to explore veterinarians' decision making when prescribing antimicrobials to

by Doidge, C., Hudson, C., Lovatt, F., and J. Kaler

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In **Significant Impact Groups:**

Prudent use AB \ Veterinarian

Species targeted: Beef;Sheep;

Age: Not stated;

Summary:

The aim of this study was to measure the influence of factors from social theories on veterinarians' decision to prescribe antimicrobials to sheep and beef farmers without a clinical consultation. Respondents were presented with eight scenarios where a farmer asks for antimicrobials at the veterinary practice. Seven further factors, identified from constructs of social theories, were included in the scenarios. The factors case type, farmer relationship, other veterinarians in practice, time pressure, habit, willingness to pay, and confidence in the farmer, were significant in the decision to prescribe. Confidence in the farmer was the most influential variable. Factors about vets that had significant influence on the decision to prescribe were agreeableness personality score, region of veterinary practice, and presence of a small animal department. These influential factors could be considered to target interventions in farm animal veterinary practice for improved antimicrobial stewardship.

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Where to find the original material:

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