

Special Issue

A Multidisciplinary Approach to Unveil the Link between Animal Welfare and Antimicrobial Use in Captive Animals

Message from the Guest Editors

The over/mis-use of antimicrobials (AMU) in Veterinary Medicine is considered one of the major contributors to the development of antimicrobial resistance, a worldwide human and animal health threat. Evidence of resistant bacteria has been described in captive species (i.e. farm, lab, companion and zoo animals). Thus, effective strategies are needed to promote a more prudent antimicrobial stewardship. Providing accurate data on AMU and potential risk factors is pivotal to achieve this goal. The role of animal welfare in the reduction of AMU has been poorly investigated. Some preliminary research is available on farm animals, whereas little is still known on zoo, companion and lab animals. Employing multiple disciplines in investigating this topic may become a key tool to better understand such a relationship while also providing additional info on AMU in captive species. This in turn, will be of help for the development of new strategies for a more judicious AMU in Veterinary Medicine. Contributions that address the importance of a multidisciplinary approach to unveil the link between animal welfare and AMU in captive species are welcomed in this Special Issue.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Animals is an on-line open access journal that was first published in 2011. *Animals* adheres to rigorous peerreview and editorial processes and publishes only high quality manuscripts that address important issues in the many varied disciplines that involve animals, with a focus on animal science, animal welfare and animal ethics. *Animals* is covered in the Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE) in Web of Science, with the latest Impact Factor: 2.7 (2023, ranks 10/80 (Q1) in 'Agriculture, Dairy & Animal Science'; 16/167 (Q1) in 'Veterinary Sciences'), 5-Year Impact Factor: 3.0.

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