The Antibiotics Council met on Tuesday, April 1, 2014 from 2:00 to 5:30 p.m. during the 2014 NIAA Annual Conference in Omaha, Nebraska, with about 32 people present. Dr. Jennifer Koeman and Dr. Eric Moore served as Co-Chairs.

The council session focused on antibiotic use and resistance in food animals. The following speakers presented relevant information pertaining to antibiotic use, FDA regulatory actions and consumer messaging:

Antibiotic Symposium Review Panel: Eric Moore, DVM – Agriculture and Public Health Perspective and Nevil Speer, MBA PhD – Consumer/Communication Perspective. Dr. Eric Moore reviewed the public health and agriculture perspective presented at the 3rd annual NIAA Antibiotic Symposium, Nov 12-14, 2013. Dr. Nevil Speer reviewed the consumer/communication perspective presented at the symposium. Attendees at the Committee meeting were referred to the white paper available on the NIAA website for additional details.

Craig A. Lewis, DVM MPH DACVPM – U.S. Food and Drug Administration, presented “FDA Overview of Antibiotic Regulatory Activities.” He discussed the FDA thinking behind and current status of Final Guidances 209 and 213 and the proposed Veterinary Feed Directive rule.

Ms. Linda Weber Eatherton, Partner, Director Global Food & Nutrition Practice at Ketchum Communications, presented “Creating Trust in Agriculture.” She discussed USFRA’s consumer messaging and activities, including the antibiotic working group messaging (message map and infographics) and the antibiotic-related Food Dialogue held previously in New York. There will be another Food Dialogue addressing antibiotic use and resistance to be held in summer 2014.

Old Business:

- The Antibiotic Council Vision and Mission Statement was reviewed and amended as follows:

**Vision Statement**

The NIAA Antibiotic Council seeks to enhance an animal agriculture industry that is aligned with judicious antibiotic use policies and practices.

**Mission is to facilitate and encourage:**

- the judicious use of antibiotics in food animal production to ensure public health, food safety, animal health and welfare;
- applying sound science including the development of metrics to measure the relationship between antibiotic use and resistance as the basis for decision-making and policy development regarding antibiotics in food animal production;
- education and communication on the role, benefits, risks and most current information on antibiotic uses in food animal production;
• leadership and partnership with food chain stakeholders (from farms to consumers to allied industry, etc.) to promote judicious antibiotic use policies and practices;

New Business:
• Resolution AB1 Development of Antibiotic Symposium was discussed and amended as follows:

  Background: Increasingly, consumers are intensely interested in how their food is grown and raised, including how antibiotics are used in farm animals. Often this conversation is polarized between animal health, public health, environmental health and consumers. Animal agriculture must continue to strive to:
  • work together across species and health disciplines;
  • identify common goals and shared solutions;
  • reach out to all stakeholders with factual, science-based information;
  • continually improve;
  • build trust.

  Resolution: The NIAA Antibiotic Council shall support planning of the fourth annual antibiotic symposium to be held in Atlanta, Georgia, Nov 12-14, 2014 that will engage participants from the human and veterinary medical communities in an interactive format to cover a variety of perspectives and continue the conversation about antibiotic therapy and resistance in human and animal health.

  • Butch Baker made a motion to approve the amended resolution. The motion was seconded by Gatz Riddell. The motion carried.

  • Consensus Points for NIAA White Paper Development
    1) The Council encourages dialogue between the human and veterinary medical communities that focuses on finding common goals and solutions.
    2) It is important that metrics are developed to measure the relationship between antibiotic use and resistance when applying interventions related to antibiotic use in food animals.
    3) It is important to continue to communicate with stakeholders (e.g. public health, producers, retailers, consumers) on the issues of antibiotic use and resistance.
    4) More

General Discussion:
During the panel session, feedback on the 2013 Antibiotic Symposium was provided by the group. Feedback included:
• supporting an interactive format for the 2014 Symposium
• encouraging dialogue between the human and veterinary medical communities that focuses on finding common goals and solutions
• including the retailer perspective to better understand consumer communication needs

Dr. Moore will speak with Dr. Craig Lewis (FDA) about verbiage and modelling used by FDA to assess development of metrics to measure the effects of interventions on outcomes for future evaluation and addition to the Vision and Mission Statement.

Council Session adjourned at 5:20PM.