7. Summary

Development of the internet based informationsystem "VetAbis" to promote the prudent use of antibiotics in bovine practice

The objective of the internet based informationsystem "VetAbis" was to support the bovine practitioners within the implementation of a prudent use of antibiotics by presenting the current knowledge in the internet.

Various sources of information have been compiled and analysed. It became obvious that relevant information is scattered over multiple sources (e.g. textbooks, journals, drug guides). They are rarely up to date and not easily accesible to veterinarians without timely and financial expense.

Two surveys showed uncertainities in the use of antibiotics and a demand for information among the veterinarians. Experts were asked for their opinion about the development of resistance, the available testing methods and the validity to generalize the results of these methods.

Within this project the internet based informationsystem for antibiotics „VetAbis" (www.vetabis.de) was developed. As of today it consists of 1489 files. The publicly accessible area is designed for farmers, consumers of food of animal origin and veterinarians, who have not visited „VetAbis" before. The password-protected area is targeted towards veterinarians. In this area veterinarians get information about the characteristics of the antimicrobial substances, several guidelines for a prudent use of antibiotics, important regulations and laws, background knowledge about antibiotic-resistance and alternatives to reduce the amount of antibiotics. This informationsystem is a framework that should be expanded primarily in the areas "products" and "informations on the current resistance patterns" in the future.

The internet offers the opportunity to present the current knowledge about antibiotics at the practising veterinarians disposal at anytime and anywhere without incurring costs. The input of experts and the references guarantee a high quality and respectability of the information. Depending on his demand of information the user can advance as deep as necessary in to the different levels of the informationsystem „VetAbis". Because of the userfriendly structure and the intuitive navigation even veterinarians, who are not used to the internet, can easily navigate through this informationsystem.