Antibiogram Use by Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratories

The California Department of Food and Agriculture’s Antimicrobial Use and Stewardship program (CDFA AUS), in partnership with the California Animal Health and Food Safety Laboratory (CAHFS), is investigating the use of antibiograms as a tool for antimicrobial stewardship in veterinary medicine.

This survey should take 10 minutes or less to complete. Even if your hospital’s laboratory does not produce antibiograms, your participation would greatly inform our approach. The results of this survey will be summarized and presented as one part of an anticipated article about veterinary antibiograms in the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association. **Survey results will remain completely anonymous when shared.**

This survey will close on November 18th.

Thank you for your participation.

1. Which laboratory are you affiliated with? (Please note that survey results will be de-identified prior to sharing)

2. Has your laboratory created antibiograms for veterinary species?
   - [ ] Yes
   - [ ] No
3. What is the intended use of your antibiograms? Please select all that apply.

☐ To guide empiric therapy (clinical)
☐ To monitor resistance trends (surveillance)
☐ Other (please specify)

4. To whom do you release your lab’s antibiograms? Please select all that apply.

☐ Veterinarians
☐ Animal owners
☐ Other (please specify)
5. How do you distribute antibiograms? Please select all that apply.

☐ Upon request
☐ Automatically with test results
☐ Via email listserv
☐ Other (please specify)

6. Do your antibiograms use data from a single hospital or a region?

☐ Single hospital
☐ Region
☐ We create both hospital and regional antibiograms
☐ Unknown

7. Do your antibiograms reflect food animals, small animals, or equine? Please select all that apply.

☐ Small animal
☐ Food animal
☐ Equine

8. If your antibiograms reflect food animal species, do they distinguish between the following, where possible? Please select all that apply.

☐ Production type (e.g. cattle in a feedlot vs a dairy)
☐ Food production vs pet animals
☐ None of the above

9. Which pathogen-host combinations do you provide antibiograms for? (e.g. bovine Mannheimia haemolytica)
10. Do you provide antibiograms specific to certain sample sites (for example, GI tract vs. Respiratory)?
   ○ Yes
   ○ No

11. What determines the frequency with which update your antibiograms?
   ○ We update annually
   ○ When enough samples are submitted to meet CLSI standards
   ○ Upon request of veterinarians or industry
   ○ Other (please specify)

12. If you have not updated your antibiograms in the past year, what was the reason?

13. Do you provide education to veterinarians on how to utilize the antibiograms you create (e.g. continuing education, guidance documents, footnotes, contact information for questions, etc.)? If yes, please describe.

14. What laboratory software do you use for antimicrobial susceptibility testing?
   ○ Sensititre SWIN (Thermofisher)
   ○ Biomic V3 (Giles Scientific)
   ○ Other (please specify)
15. How frequently do you update your software for breakpoints?

- Annually
- When updates are released
- Never
- Other (please specify)

16. Does your lab use epidemiologic cutoff values in your antibiograms? If yes, which ones?

17. When breakpoints for a specific host-bacteria combination are not available, do you extrapolate from similar species? (e.g. use of canine breakpoints for cats or use of human breakpoints; use of breakpoints specific for E. coli for a Proteus infection)

- Yes
- No
- Unknown
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18. How do you determine which extrapolated breakpoints to use?

19. Do you disclose which extrapolated breakpoints are utilized so antibiogram users understand how that can impact clinical outcome? If yes, please describe.
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The California Department of Food and Agriculture’s Antimicrobial Use and Stewardship program (CDFA AUS) and the California Animal Health and Food Safety Laboratory (CAHFS) thank you for participating in our survey. Your responses are very valuable and we appreciate your time.

For any questions or feedback, please contact us at CDFA_AUS@CDFA.CA.GOV.

Sincerely,
The CDFA AUS + CAHFS team