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Current practices for sale and distribution of Veterinary Biologicals in the Middle East

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Introduction

- Biologicals / vaccines:
  - Are all products designed to stimulate active immunization of animals against diseases.
  - Vaccines may contain inactivated or live microorganisms (bacteria-viruses or protozoa) or its products (toxoids-antigenic parts........)

- It is obvious that the Middle East owns a huge number of animals of different species.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Animal Species</th>
<th>Cattle</th>
<th>Sheep/Goats</th>
<th>Poultry</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number (x 1,000)</td>
<td>71,000</td>
<td>276,000</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Introduction (Cont.)

The estimated numbers of animals are:

Animal Population in the Middle East Region
(x 1,000)

- Birds: 85%
- Cattle: 3%
- Sheep/Goats: 12%
- Birds: 85%
Introduction (Cont.)

The concept of prevention from animal diseases has been developed during the last years: vaccination programs became the most practical and efficient tool to control animal diseases, as stamping out policy is not applicable in the region due to several reasons. Consequently the demand on veterinary vaccines has been grown.

The estimated quantities of vaccines needed are:

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<th>Cattle</th>
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<th>Poultry</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of vaccines (x 1,000,000 doses)</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>950</td>
<td>8,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Source of veterinary vaccines

Veterinary vaccines source

- 91% Locally produced vaccines
- 9% Imported vaccines
Registration of veterinary vaccines

- Most of countries have registration mechanisms.
- Registration authorities differ from country to another.
- Registration procedures differ from country to another.
- Registration usually take place in offices, upon submission of dossiers from the producers.
- Most of the countries have no competent Q.C Laboratories.
- Quality assurance is questionable.
Who distribute the vaccines?

- Most Vaccines for infectious diseases of large animals provided and distributed by the Veterinary Authorities for free (FMD- PPR – Anthrax-RVF ...).

- Vaccines of large animals for other diseases provided by the state in some countries and the private sector in others (Brucella- Pasteurella...).

- Most of pets and horses vaccines provided and distributed by private sector.

- Most of poultry vaccines provided and distributed by private sector.
Who distribute the vaccines? (Cont.)

Vaccines Distribution

- Large animal infectious diseases vaccines: 90% provided by Government, 10% private sector
- Large animal other diseases vaccines: 60% provided by Government, 40% private sector
- Poultry vaccines: 95% provided by Government, 5% private sector
- Pets and horses vaccines: 93% provided by Government, 7% private sector

Legend:
- Vaccines provided by Government
- Vaccines provided by private sector
Existential situation relating to vaccine distribution

- Weakness of legislations, not updated, and not applied in most cases.
- Providing and distribution of vaccines doesn’t considered as priority and dedicated staff is limited.
- Distributors in many cases are not veterinarians and not qualified.
- Capacity of Importers and distributors is limited and can not assure good storage and distribution conditions.
- Cool-chain is not guaranteed, due to electricity failure and the lack of refrigerated vehicles.
- Smuggling of vaccines creates a serious problem.
- Weakness of the after sale inspection
Consequences of mal-distribution of vaccines

- Circulating of bad, inefficient vaccines in the country.
- Failure of vaccination programs.
- Spreading of animal diseases.
- Threaten public health, ecosystem and economy.
What has to be done

Veterinary authorities have to:

- Dedicate the required staff of inspectors.
- Rehabilitate staff through training.
- Update legislations to provide legal coverage for inspectors.
- Establish modern legislation and procedures for licensing of distributors.
- Implement after sale inspection policy.
- Establish / develop the Q.C laboratories.
- Awareness campaigns to encourage farmers to obtain vaccines from guaranteed sources.
- Consider international standards when developing legislations.

Importers and distributors have to:

- Provide the right facilities for storage and distribution of vaccines.
- Recruit trained and competent personals most likely veterinarians.
- Respect the sensitivity of biologicals.
Regional and international organizations have to:

- Assist the rehabilitation of national personals through trainings.
- Improve the communication through workshops and training courses.
- Support twining with Q.C laboratories in the region.
In spite of the improvements and progress achieved during the recent years, there is a lot to be done yet in order to achieve our goals, when we guarantee that animals are receiving an efficient and safe vaccine.
Recommendations on regional level

- Harmonized legislations for registration, importation and distribution of vaccines should be established in the region; this step will sort out the problem of smuggling.

- Q.C laboratories should be dedicated in the region, resources and provisions should be assured to develop these laboratories in order to establish twining with reference laboratories.

- Support of the role of veterinarians in the national registration and decision making bodies.
Thank you for your attention