FECAVA Advice on Responsible Use of Antimicrobials

**Should I use antimicrobials in this patient?**

**Use this chart to:**
- Support your decision making
- Avoid unnecessary antimicrobial use

**Indications where systemic antimicrobial use is normally unnecessary**

- "Preventive use" in healthy animals
- Routine dental descaling and polishing
- Treatment of in-contact but unaffected cohort animals
- Before mating/at weaning time

**Surgery of uninfected / uncontaminated tissue**
- Routine castrations and spays
- Routine laparotomy
- Caesarian section
- Removal of non-infected tumours
- Clean orthopaedic surgery of short duration (< 1.5 hours)
- Neurosurgery
- Reconstructive surgery, otoplasty, skin flaps, etc.

**Uncomplicated conditions of known or suspected viral aetiology**
- Acute canine cough
- Acute gastrointestinal infection
- Feline upper respiratory viral infections
- Feline calicivirus infection
- Feline leukaemia virus (FeLV) Feline immunodeficiency virus (FIV) infections
- Rhinovirus

**Other conditions without pathogenic bacterial involvement**
- Feline lower urinary tract disease (FLUTD)
- Juvenile vaginitis
- Acute conjunctivitis
- Chronic bronchitis
- Inflammatory bowel disease (IBD)
- Prostatic hyperplasia or prostatic cysts
- Anal sac inflammation/engorgement without abscessation
- Wounds with well established granulation tissue

**Conditions likely to respond to antiseptics or other topical agents**
- Uncomplicated skin lesions or mildly infected wounds and bites
- Surface and superficial pyoderma
- Seborrhoeic skin diseases
- Otitis externa
- Periodontal disease

**Other uncomplicated conditions with bacterial aetiology**
- Bile abscesses in cats
- Salmonella gastroenteritis
- Campylobacter spp gastroenteritis
- Clostridium difficile gastroenteritis

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This table provides examples and should not be considered comprehensive.