



2019 RUMA Conference
Building on Industry Success
Tuesday 29th October 2019
Holborn, London

Draft Programme

Background - The conference objective is to a) recognise and understand the importance of responsible use of medicines as the UK develops trading relationships around the world, and promotes its high health and high welfare systems of livestock production, and b) to hold a mirror up and understand how we really are doing. Whilst the industry faces many challenges, healthy animals and responsible use of medicines are at the heart of profitable and sustainable businesses. We need to give our consumers (and export markets) good reason to buy British food. Much progress has been made in recent years, but can that progress be maintained as reducing, refining and replacing antibiotics becomes harder? And is progress sufficient to reassure consumers and media, and capitalise on new markets?

Morning Chairman: Gwyn Jones

10.30

Short film

Welcome to conference and introduction to morning session

Chairman

10.45

A vision for safe and healthy food

Heather Hancock, Chair, FSA

Giving a vision for safe healthy food built on systems which are modern and productive and demonstrate responsible use of medicines. Are we doing enough, and what else is needed?

11.00

The future food agenda

Stuart Roberts, Vice President, NFU

How can the UK can sell its credentials as a major food producer offering safe, quality food, backed by sectors which promote and adopt systems of production built around good health and welfare and responsible use of medicines? Where do we need to 'up' our game.

11.20

Leadership in responsible use of medicines

Dr Kitty Healey, Head of Antimicrobial Resistance, VMD

Highlights of 2018 VARSS sales and antibiotic resistance surveillance data; challenging the industry in terms of maintaining progress and leading the world in responsible use.

- 11.40 **AMR around the world**
Dr Shabbir Simjee, RUMA Independent Scientific Group
A look at farm animal and food industry initiatives globally to tackle AMR, and the key challenges at play.
- 12.00 **Panel Session**
Heather Hancock, Stuart Roberts, Kitty Healey, Shabbir Simjee, joined by Duncan Sinclair from the BRC and Sue Lockhart from Red Tractor
- 12.45 **Lunch**
- Afternoon Chairman: Catherine McLaughlin
- 1.25 Short Film
Introduction to afternoon session
Chairman
- 1.35 **Challenges for farm medicines**
Professor Julie Fitzpatrick, Scientific Director, Moredun Research Institute.
The challenges of increasing resistance to anthelmintics and other medicines, and the opportunities for disease prevention via vaccination and integrated management. What opportunities are offered by science for the responsible use of medicines?
- 1.55 **Challenges for the veterinary sector**
Simon Doherty, President, BVA
Responsible of medicines is not just down to farmers – what role does and could the vet play? Simon will discuss examples of farmer-vet cooperation and behaviour change which are driving good farm practice. The veterinary surgeon's role is evolving to one of comprehensive disease management, starting with prevention and good biosecurity. The veterinary sector has a key role in working with farmers to maximise quality and performance in replacing, reducing and refining the use of antimicrobials.
- 2.20 **The challenge of media and public perception**
Maryn McKenna, Journalist
A senior fellow at the Center for the Study of Human Health at Emory University, Ms McKenna is the author of the books Big Chicken (published in the UK under the title Plucked), Superbug, and Beating Back the Devil. She is a columnist for WIRED and a journalist for magazines including National Geographic, The New Republic and the New York Times, and her work critically examines antibiotic use in agriculture.
- 3.05 **Panel session**
Julie Fitzpatrick, Simon Doherty, Maryn McKenna,

3.30

Closing remarks

Dr Christine Middlemiss, Chief Veterinary Officer, Defra
Summing up the take-home messages from the day: how does the industry build on success to ensure it is resilient to disease, supporting a healthy population and able to capitalize on future economic opportunities?

3.50

Conference close

Chairman (CM)

DRAFT