

## **Preserving Animal Health to Ensure Food Safety and Sustainability**

by

Lina S. Policarpio

Head of Technical Services, ASEAN

Elanco Animal Health

In 2050, the global population is expected to hit 9.5B and this means a demand for additional 60 % animal protein and an acceleration of use of the earth's limited resources. While the industry aims to provide the gap, it is our responsibility to ensure antimicrobials continue to work to ensure meat and animal products only from healthy animals enter the food chain. Trade is going to be important as well, to meet the demand for protein and countries need to adopt and align with international standards like Codex.

Antimicrobials are important tools to preserve the health and well-being of food animals. As an industry, it is our responsibility to ensure that they continue to be efficacious. Antibiotic resistance is a complex issue and the solutions to addressing it are equally complex and should be addressed collectively by stakeholders across the supply chain to be effective.

In 2013, Elanco announced its Antibiotic Policy, which outlines our global approach to the responsible use of antibiotics and to help preserve efficacy of antibiotics for human and animal health. Since then, Elanco has been leading efforts, including shaping public policy, for the responsible use of antibiotics in partnership with stakeholders across the globe.

Elanco's 8 Point Antibiotic Stewardship Plan aligns with our Global Antibiotic Policy and further outlines our commitment to this issue. Addressing antibiotic resistance and "One Health" does not mean "antibiotic-free", but instead the judicious and responsible use of antibiotics to treat, control and prevent disease. It is also important to differentiate between human only, shared class and animal only antibiotics, recognize the importance of veterinary oversight and support efforts to reduce the use of shared class antibiotics through good management and strict implementation of biosecurity protocols.

We believe that science and policy are key to the solutions. Solutions need to take a balanced approach, to preserve animal health and welfare while ensuring food safety and sustainability.