



CA18105



RIBMINS

Risk-based meat inspection and
integrated meat safety assurance

Residues and pigs - activity within COST Action RIBMINS

Lis Alban | 17 May 2022 | Virtual meeting | EFSA's Emerg. Risk Stakeholder Group

Background

Consumers are preoccupied about residues

- Although prevalence is very low

Many resources spent on monitoring and management

- There are many kinds of residues
- Many substances to look for
- But are the resources spent in the most cost-effective way?
- And is there a risk, and if so, where?



Pig meat

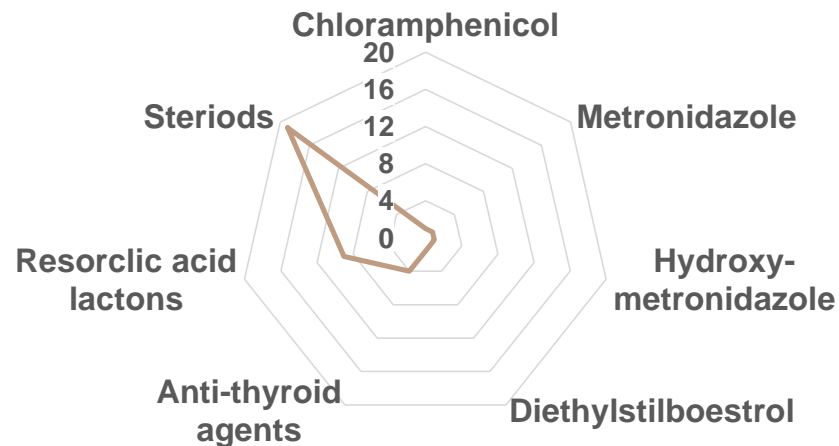
Both Competent Authority (CA) and Food Business Operator (FBO) carrying responsibility

- CA: Setting up monitoring in accordance the EU Residue Directive
- FBO: setting up own check systems

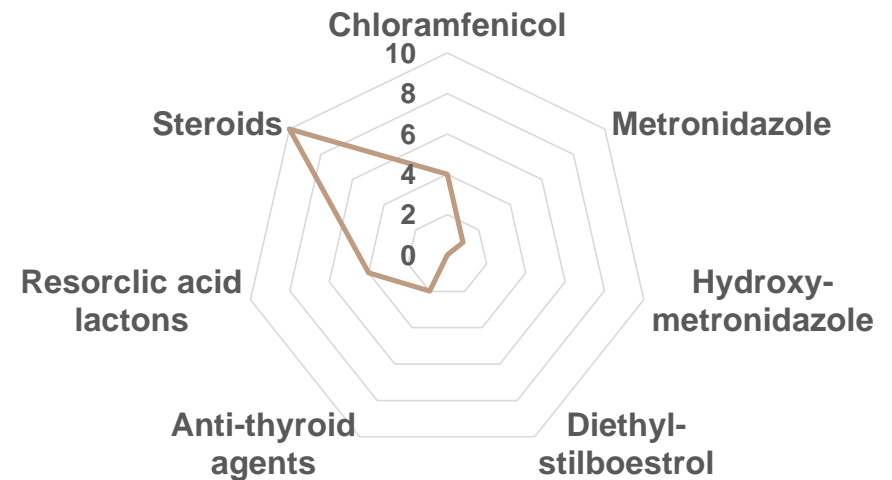
No international agreement about maximum residue limits (MRL) in pig meat

- From high to low: USA > Codex > EU > Russia
- Resulting in costly rejections of imported meat

Few prohibited substances found in pigs in the EU



Report for 2014 on the results from the monitoring of veterinary medicinal product residues and other substances in live animals and animal products.



[Report for 2020 on the results from the monitoring of veterinary medicinal product residues and other substances in live animals and animal products \(wiley.com\)](https://www.wiley.com)

Case: Farmer calls in too late

- How do we handle the situation when a farmer calls in to inform the abattoir about the mistakenly delivery of an animal before the end of the withdrawal period?
- Are the current ways of handling sustainable?
- Is there a risk, and if so where?



Danish experience related to finding residues of AM in pigs in monitoring or because farmer called abattoir

Inadequate use of **water-medication mixer**

Lack of internal **communication** - Farmer called slaughterhouse in time and treated pigs were driven back

Information unavailable

Farmer called driver in time to avoid deliverance of treated pigs. Problem arose because of lack of **communication** in combination with defect **medication mixer**

Inadequate marking of treated animal

Inexperienced driver took wrong pigs to slaughter. Farmer called slaughterhouse when aware of problem, but it was too late

Interview with farmer did not reveal reason for finding

Farmer called slaughterhouse too late

Farmer called slaughterhouse too late. All 170 pigs tested

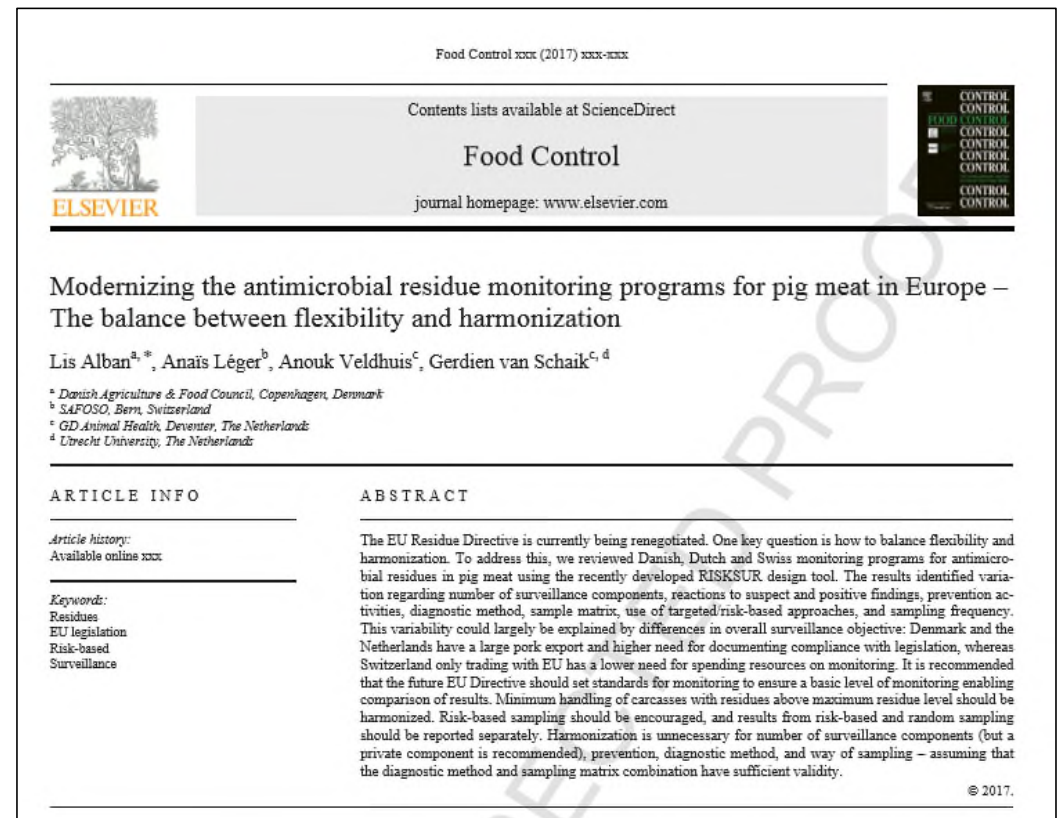
Aims

These issues will be investigated through mapping of national programmes

- Earlier work has shown substantial differences within European countries (Alban et al., 2017)

We aim at identifying sets of best practices for monitoring and handling

- Depending on country's surveillance objective
- Among others related to their kind of export and national risk perception



Ultimate goal

To create basis for

- more cost-effective routine monitoring and
- more evidence-based procedures regarding when to condemn carcasses, edible organs, blood and animal by-products that might contain AM residues

May lead to a more harmonised approach in Europe

- and allow for reducing food losses without jeopardizing consumer safety.

Hence, more sustainable food production, improved food security and reduced resource footprints

- in line with European Green Deal

Actions to reduce food loss and waste

Committed to reaching the UN SDG Target to halve food waste at retail and consumer levels by 2030, and reduce food losses along the food production and supply chains.



Proposal for EU-level targets for food waste reduction (2023)



**STOP
FOOD
WASTE**

"USE BY" \neq **"BEST BEFORE"**
informs you about informs you about

FOOD SAFETY **FOOD QUALITY**

Revise EU rules for date marking ('use by' and 'best before' dates) (2022)

Launch of survey

Time period: 29 March – 31 May 2022

- Introductory text placed on website of COST Action RIBMINS
- Open for all interested parties

Status by 12/5-2022

Competent authority

- 11 answers from
5 countries

Food Business Operator

- 10 answers from
7 countries



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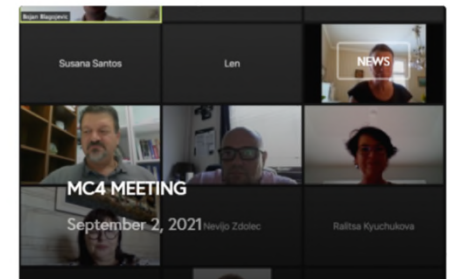
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in



Methodology

Focus is on pigs, delivered to an abattoir and maybe slaughtered

- Only legal veterinary AMs of interest

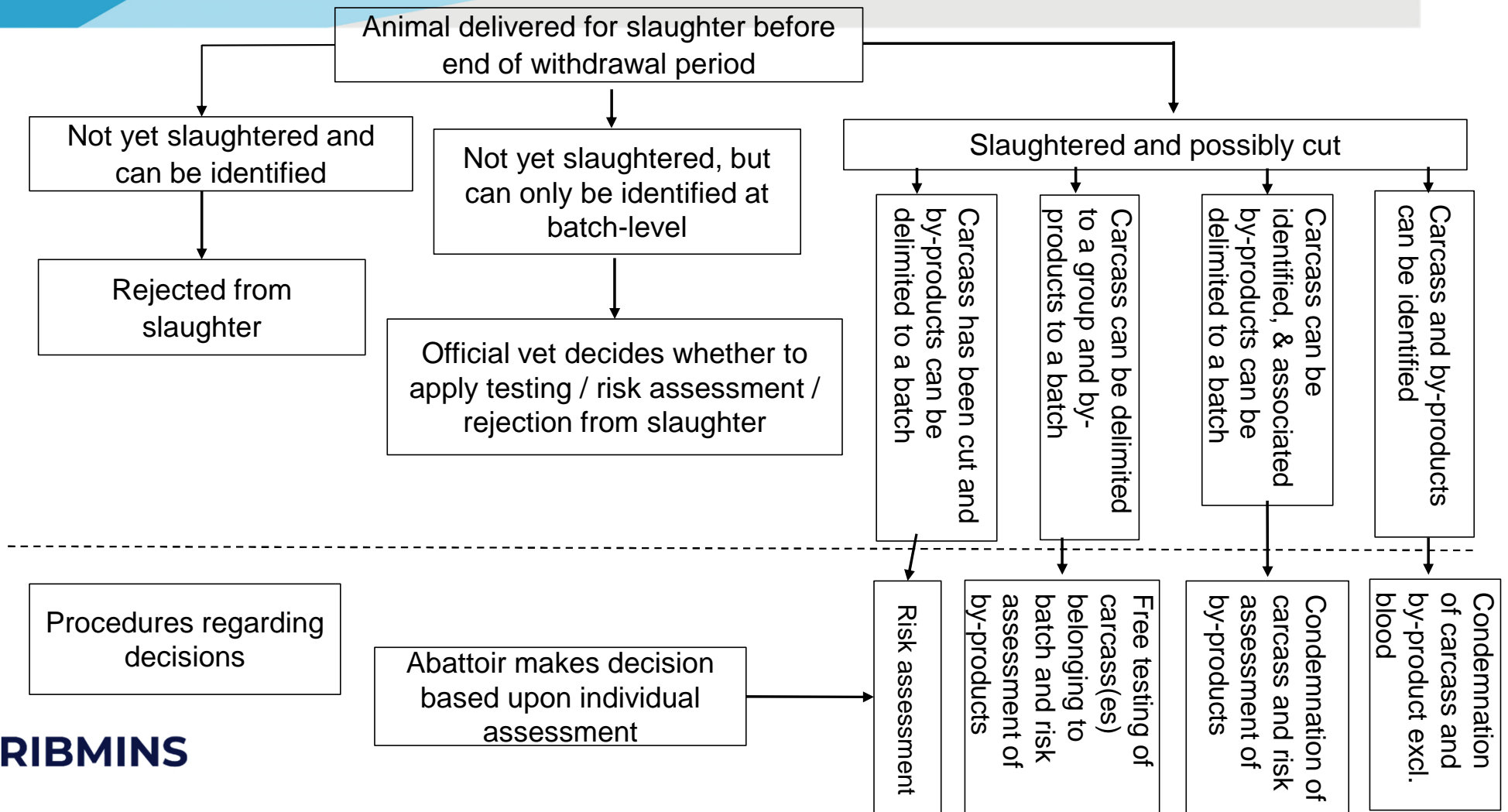
Questionnaires developed with input from several partners from different countries

- Targeted CA and FBO

Different areas covered

1. Routine monitoring, including handling of positives found in monitoring
2. Food Chain Information (FCI) and perception of value of monitoring
3. Case: Farmer calls in about delivery of pig(s) before end of withdrawal period

Farmer calls in..... several scenarios

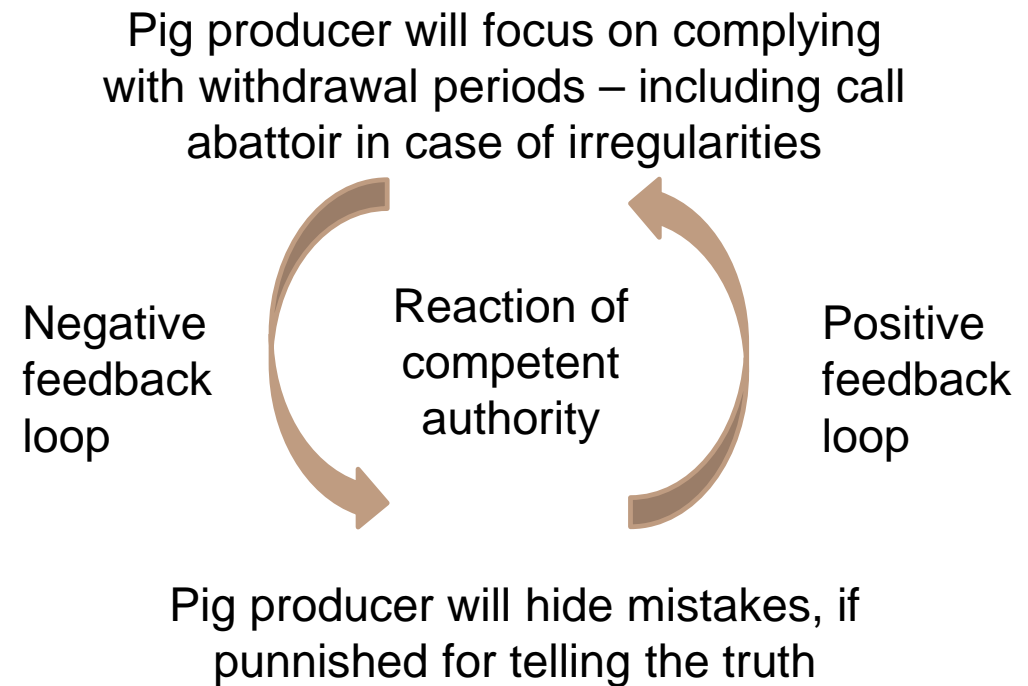


Application of system's thinking

Regarding the case when a farmer calls in:

We will aim at identifying a balance between prevention and management

- e.g., using system's thinking approach involving mapping of system and identification of positive and negative feedback loops



Is there a risk?

We do not know yet, if, where and why there is a risk

- Will come out of the project

Undertaken in collaboration

- Between representatives representing authorities, academia and meat producers

Working Group 1 on AM Residues



Boris, CR



Madalina, RO



Ivar, SE



Ioannis, GR



Madalena, PT



Arja, SE



Derk, NL



Alexandrina, RO



Rosa Maria, ES



Aivars, LV



Ian, AU



Silvia, IT



Lis, DK



Fernando, ES



Jesper, DK



Thank you for your attention



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