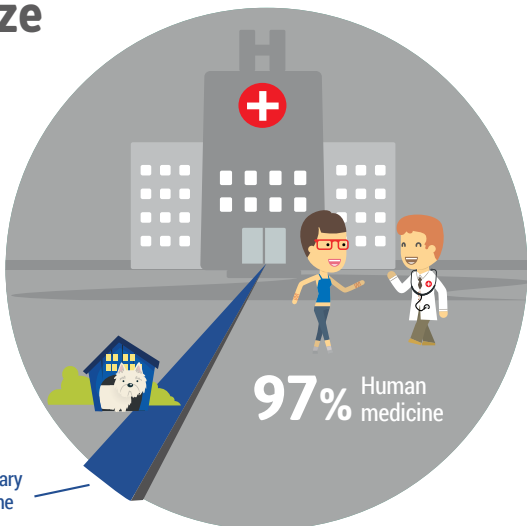


We are similar, but we are not the same: veterinary medicines vs human medicines



1. Market size

The veterinary market is a fraction of the human medicines market – but it goes through just as stringent a regulatory process when producing medicines for animals, with additional studies needed for consumer safety of food-producing animals.



2. Number of species

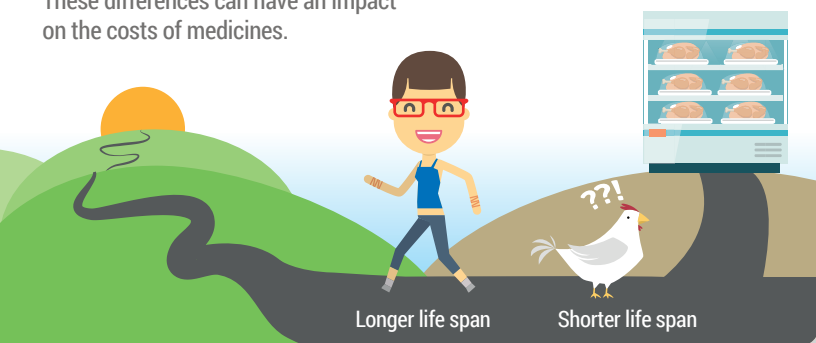
The human medicines sector deals with only one species; the veterinary sector with multiple species. The need to develop medicines for a wide range of animals, sometimes with completely reformulated products and different routes of administration, make the administrative tasks seem endless.



3. Development requirements

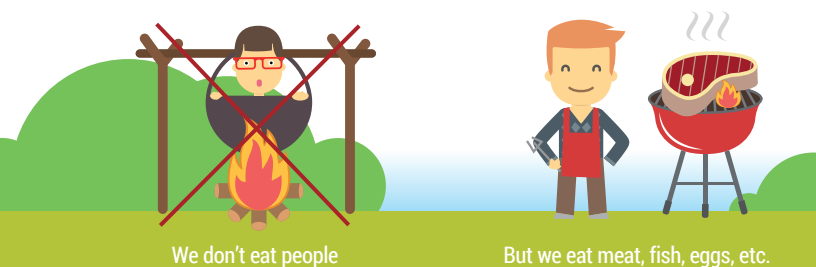
The data legally required when developing a medicine must be proportionate to the sector, including the lifespan of the patient. The approach to assessing the benefit-risk of a human medicine is very different from that of a medicine for a broiler chicken for example.

These differences can have an impact on the costs of medicines.



5. Ensuring food safety

Veterinary medicines for food-producing animals require extra investment into research and development to verify both consumer safety (i.e. ensure our food is safe to eat) and environmental safety (particularly for outdoor animals).



4. Paying for the medicine

Unlike for human medicines where national health services in some countries subsidise the costs of medicines, the animal owners have to pay the full cost of the medicines needed to treat sick farm animals and/or pets.



The veterinary medicines sector has major differences from the human medicines sector in terms of who the products are made for and how they are provided and used, etc. Regulation needs to take into account the unique characteristics of the veterinary sector in order to keep the required investment in product development proportionate to the veterinary medicines value and not add additional unnecessary administrative burden.

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