

# We are proud antibiotic caretakers



**NZVA**  
New Zealand Veterinary Association

Effective antibiotics have been a key factor in living longer and healthier.

Very few issues globally are of greater importance than antibiotic resistance.

That's why our veterinarians, working where animals, humans and the environment meet, are leading the way in responsible use of these critical medicines in animals.

The New Zealand Veterinary Association has set an aspirational vision for the future:

By 2030 New Zealand Inc. will not need antibiotics for the maintenance of animal health and wellness.

## What is our approach?

**Recognition** – We have recognised that a problem of antibiotic resistance exists that we all have to solve.

**Responsibility** – We are providing leadership through the careful and responsible use of antibiotics for animals.

**Reduction** – We are taking steps to reduce or not use certain types of antibiotics.

**Refinement** – We are using antibiotics in smarter ways.

**Replacement** – We want to maintain animal health and wellbeing without antibiotics.

**Review** – We review what we are doing, learn lessons and look for new opportunities.

## What you can do to help:

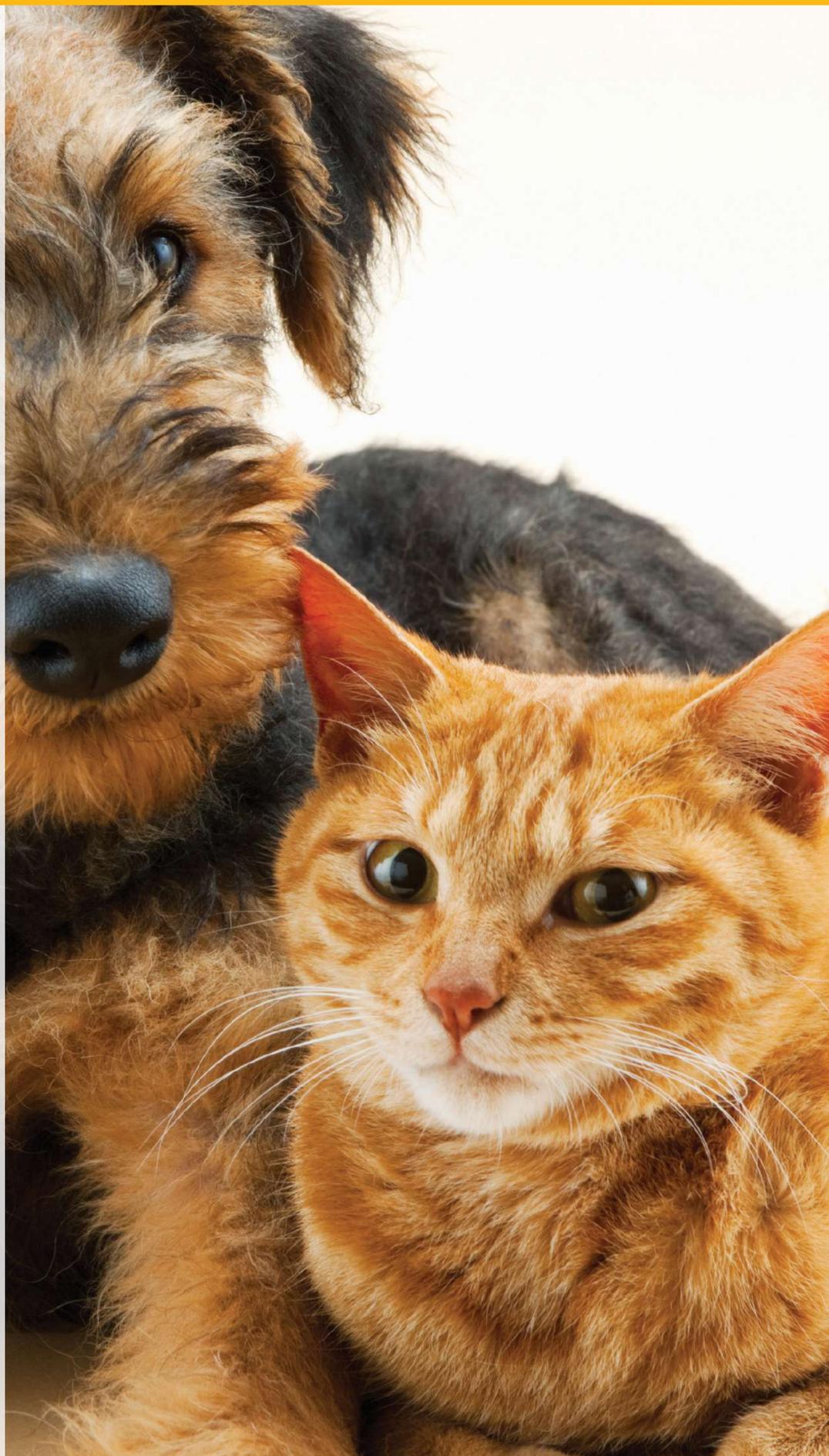
- **Be aware:** Antibiotics can treat and control infections that threaten your pet's health but inappropriate use of antibiotics can harm your pet, as well as threaten the health of animals and people.
- **Listen to professional advice:** Your veterinarian will prescribe antibiotics only when they are needed.
- **Work together:** You and your veterinarian have joint responsibility to make sure any treatment for your pet is effective. If you have to administer antibiotic treatments, ensure you follow all of the instructions and complete the prescribed course.
- **Prevention is best:** You can play a part in reducing the need for antibiotics by helping to prevent disease through good nutrition, husbandry and hygiene practices. Make sure your pets get regular health checks and keep their vaccinations up to date.

For more information please visit:

[nzva.org.nz/amr](http://nzva.org.nz/amr)

### About the New Zealand Veterinary Association

The New Zealand Veterinary Association (NZVA) is the only membership association representing New Zealand veterinarians. With over 2000 members we are the leading voice for veterinarians working in all disciplines where animals, humans and the environment intersect.



Insight into Antimicrobial Resistance: Our Antimicrobial Resistance Strategy Group provides an informed consensus view on issues of scientific and public concern in the areas of public health, food safety, animal health, animal welfare and the environment which relate to antimicrobial use in animals. We believe the veterinary profession is integral to improving animal health, well-being and the status of animals in our society whether companion, production, wildlife, research or sport and recreation.