



Dr Franz Pirro

Franz Pirro studied veterinary medicine at the Ludwig Maximilians University, Munich, Germany. Prior to this he had already completed a degree in Agricultural Biology earning a Master grade. After one year of practicing mainly in the field of livestock (focus on dairy and swine) he received his PhD at the University of Gießen, Germany. In 1991, he became Assistant Professor at the University of Gießen, Institute of Hygiene and Infectious Diseases. Franz Pirro joined Bayer in 1994 as project coordinator in R&D. From 1997 he coordinated the Baytril® defense, did scientific lobbying anti-infectives and was member of anti-infective working groups at BfT, FEDESA, COMISA. From 2000 to 2006 he was in charge of global productmanagement Baytril® and the anti-infective franchise. Since 2007 he is occupied with Global Brand Management Catosal® as well as with Portfolio Management Food Animal Products. Franz Pirro is Diplomate at the European College for Veterinary Public Health. He has published extensively and is holder of several patents.

# International survey on the use of Catosal® injectable solution in swine practice

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Catosal® (combination of butafosfan and vitamin B12; in some countries branded as Coforta® or Phosphorum B12®) as one of Bayer's classical brands was made available to the veterinary community as early as 1958. Since then many studies have been conducted in order to demonstrate its reliable benefits in several animal species and under various husbandry conditions. Globally numerous swine experts trust and rely on Catosal® so that per year approximately 1.3 mio pigs are dosed with Catosal®. Catosal®'s traditional indications in swine cover metabolic diseases of different aetiology, the prevention and control of MMA, improvement of fertility, supplement to diarrhoea treatment, stress attenuation and growth or feeding disorders.

As responsible producer of veterinary pharmaceutical drugs, it is our aim at Bayer Animal Health to follow up and monitor the use of our products in the market, to analyse the received feedback and to continuously improve our brands and services according to our customers needs. In this context several detailed field surveys have been conducted in recent years throughout the world on the use of Catosal® injectable solution. In total more than 1200 practitioners were asked on animal species, age, indication areas, dose rates, combination with other drugs, route of administration, as well as duration and efficacy of treatment.

In this paper, we analyse the responses of more than 300 swine practitioners from various countries in order to provide a representative and comprehensive picture on the use of Catosal® and a profound assessment of clinical benefits and treatment satisfaction.

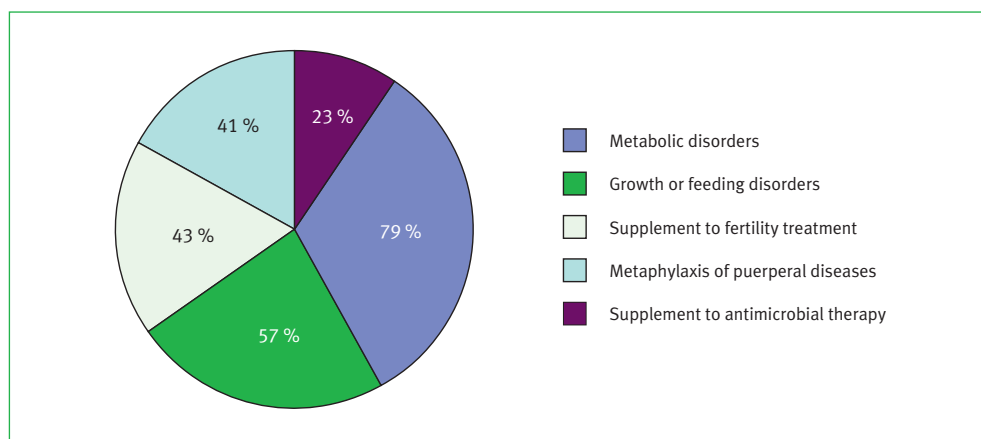


Figure 1: Major Catosal® use

With marginal regional differences Catosal® is used in sows, fatteners and piglets to a similar extent. The most frequent application is the treatment of general metabolic disorders (75 to 86%). More than 50% of swine practitioners use Catosal® in piglets and fatteners for the treatment of growth and feeding disorders and more than 20% as a supplement to antimicrobial treatment. In sows more than 40% of the respondents use Catosal® to improve fertility or in the metaphylactic treatment of puerperal diseases. Other, less frequently mentioned indications were the treatment of stressed or immunosuppressed animals, the stimulation of appetite, the treatment of anaemia, and the supportive treatment of locomotive disorders.

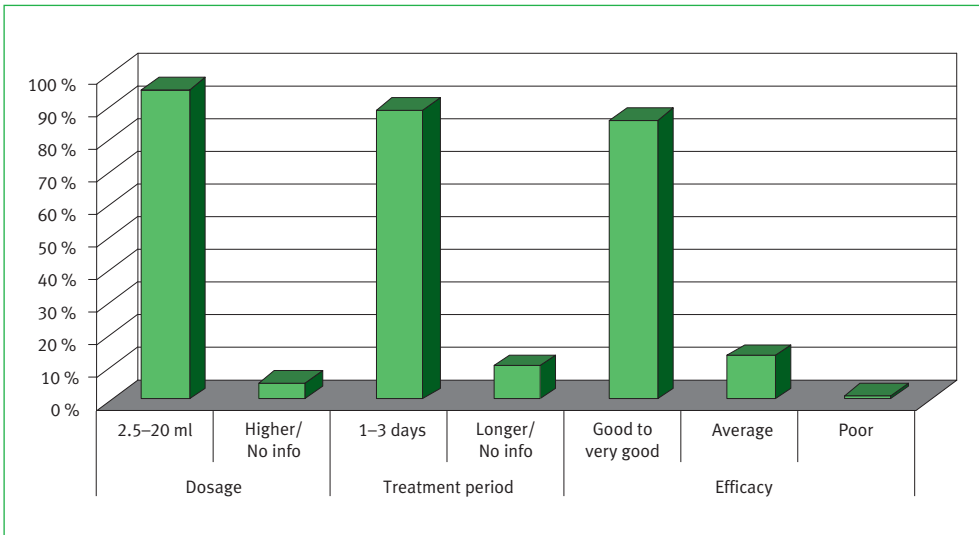


Figure 2: Catosal® use in swine

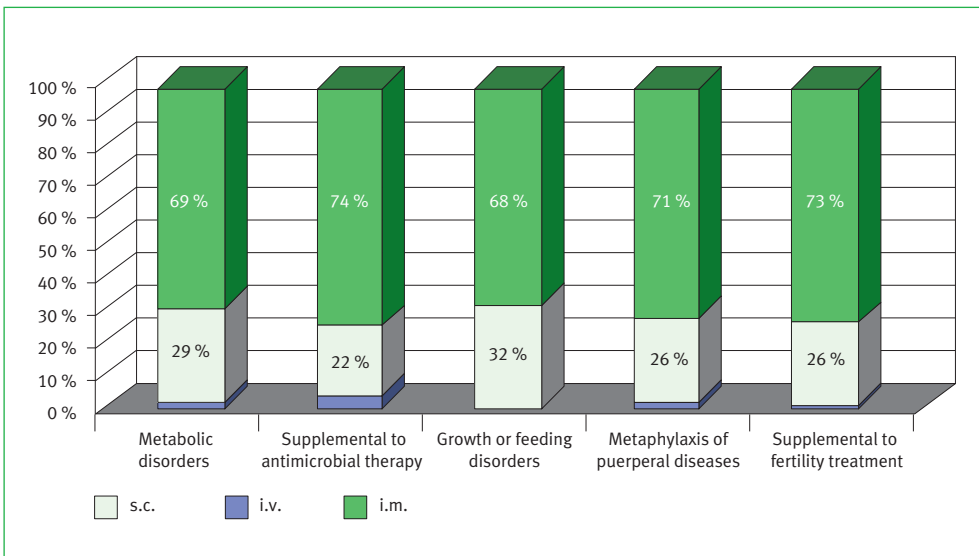


Figure 3: Application per indication

About 2/3 of treatments in sows are dosed at 11 to 20 ml, whereas more than 75 % of piglets and fatteners receive up to 10 ml. Typically treatments last 1 to 3 days (85 %). Application is via intramuscular (68–80 %) or subcutaneous injection. For practical reasons, intravenous application is rare.

Overall a high percentage (mean 85 %) rated efficacy good to very good with a range from 76 % for supportive fertility treatment up to 88 % for the treatment of metabolic disorders and supportive antimicrobial treatment.

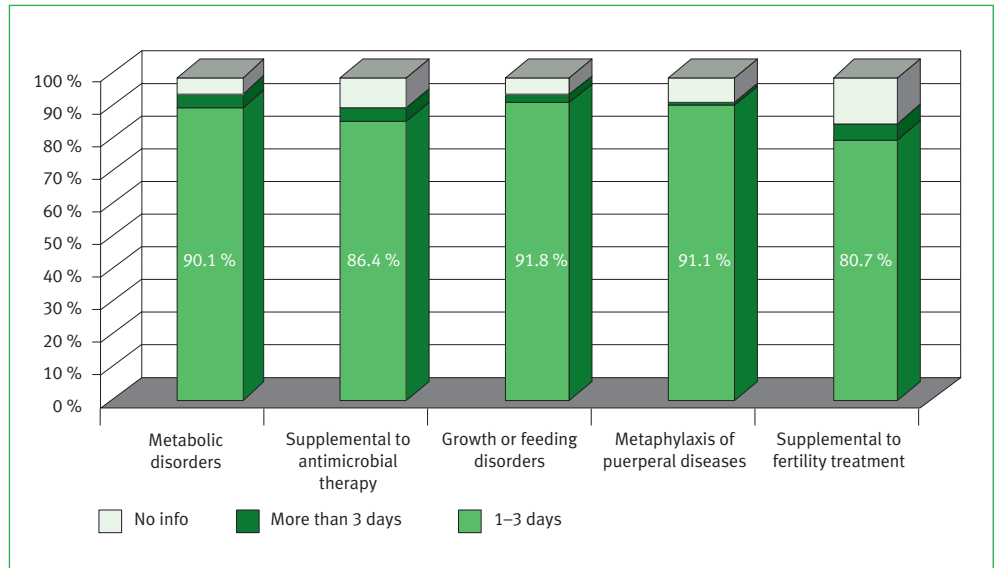


Figure 4: Treatment duration per indication

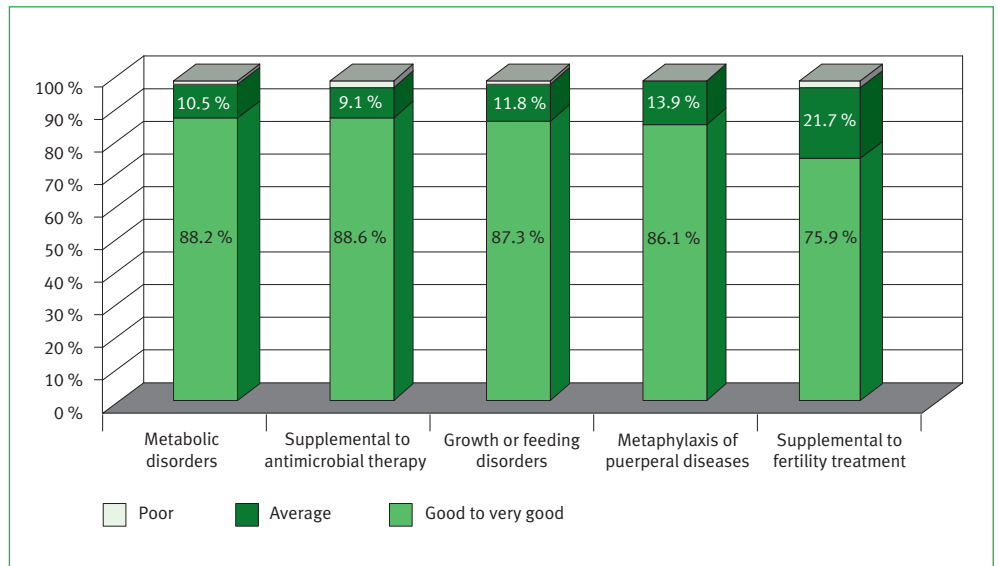


Figure 5: Efficacy by indication

Up to 3 % of the overall treatment outcomes were judged poor and 9–22 % average. Especially noted was the high degree of safety allowing the application of 3–5 times the therapeutic dose without adverse effects.

In conclusion, the survey showed that Catosal® is very well established in swine practice. Beside the high level of brand awareness, the swine practitioners participating in the study were very satisfied with the broad and deep spectrum of indications and the efficacy of Catosal® in various metabolic disorders.

These results support Bayer's efforts to continuously improve the Catosal® label and the service offers to maintain the excellent image Catosal® has amongst swine experts.

## References

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