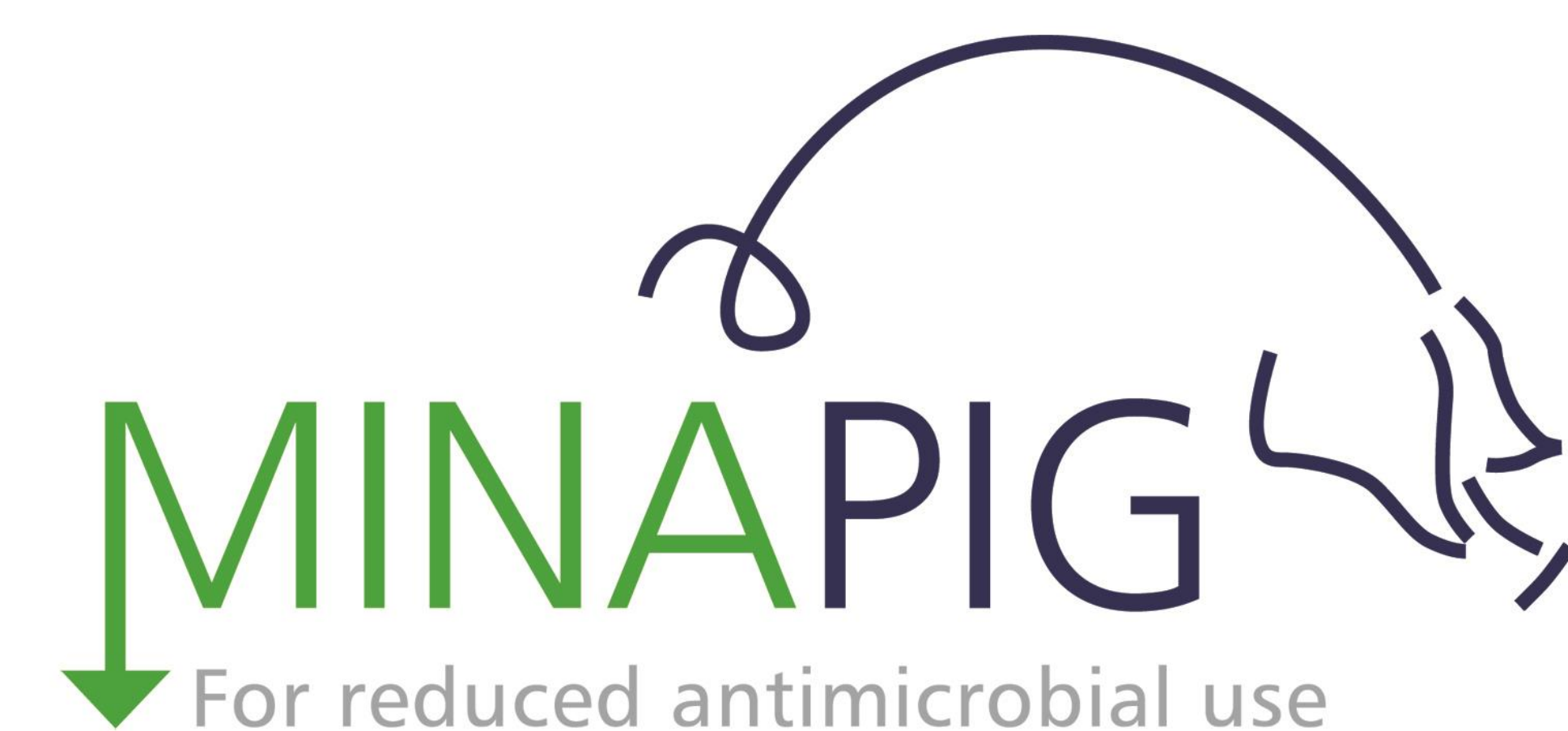


What is the profile of the French veterinarians that perceive a high potential for antimicrobial usage reduction in the pig industry?



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HYPOTHESIS: ANTIMICROBIAL USAGE REDUCTION → VETERINARIANS COLLABORATION → NECESSITY TO UNDERSTAND VETERINARIANS' PERCEIVED POTENTIAL FOR ANTIMICROBIAL USAGE REDUCTION

MATERIALS & METHODS

Study design

Online survey
140 French pig veterinarians contacted
67 respondents (response rate = 48 %)
>25% of their activity devoted to pig medicine
Likert scales (scores from 1=do not agree at all to 6=fully agree)

Group definition

“What is the proportion of antimicrobial usage that could be reduced in the French pig industry in the next 5 years without impairing the pig farming economic sustainability?”

≤20 % → Pessimistic group (n=37)
>20 % → Optimistic group (n=30)

Statistics

Comparison of veterinarians' profile in the two groups
Wilcoxon Rank-Sum Test for difference in median scores

RESULTS

Topic	Item	Pessimistic group median score (95% CI)	Optimistic group median score (95% CI)	P-value ¹
Own prescription practices	I try to prescribe as few antibiotic treatments as possible	5 (5-6)	6 (5-6)	0.03
Ability to change farmers' habits	A significant reduction in the antibiotic consumption in pig farming is very difficult as farmers would need to change their habits	4 (4-5)	4 (3-4)	0.03
	It is difficult to convince farmers to use more alternative methods to keep their animals healthy	5 (4-5)	3 (3-4)	< 0.01
	My pig farmers adopt all preventive measures and treatment options that I suggest to them	4 (3-4)	4 (4-5)	0.01
	I believe that my pig-farming clients fully trust my advices about their pigs	4 (4-5)	5 (5-5)	0.02
Policy measure acceptability	Farmers can compare their number of antibiotic treatments per pig to that of other pig farmers in France	5 (5-6)	5 (4-5)	0.05
Characteristic	Age of the respondent	45 (42-49)	38.5 (34-49)	0.06

¹ Significance of the Wilcoxon Rank-Sum test (two-sided hypothesis)

CONCLUSION

Veterinarians that perceived a high potential for antimicrobial usage in the pig industry :

- **Were more confident in their ability to convince farmers to change their practices**
- **Tried to limit their own prescriptions**
- **Were younger**

Follow up & Stay in touch

MINAPIG consortium will investigate alternatives to antimicrobials in depth and implement them in field studies. If you would like to receive updates on MINAPIG research, please visit www.minapig.eu

MINAPIG is funded by:

