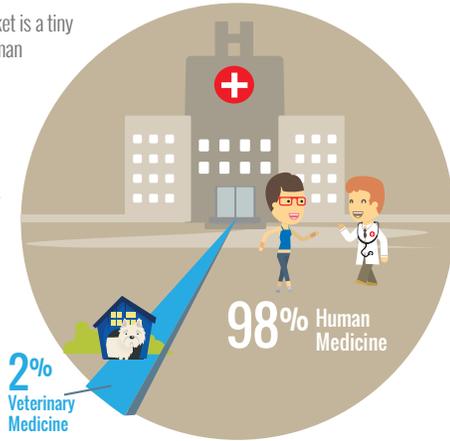


# Animal and human medicines: Similar, but not the same

## 1. Market size

The veterinary medicine market is a tiny fraction of the size of the human medicine 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.



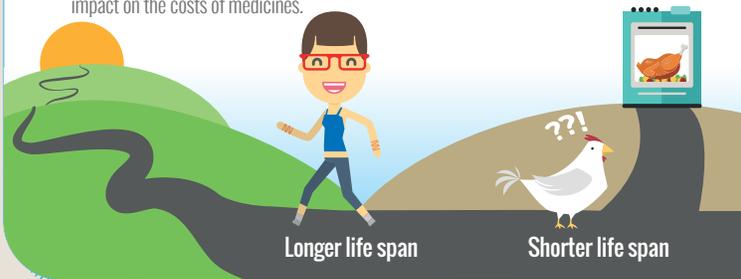
## 2. Number of species

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



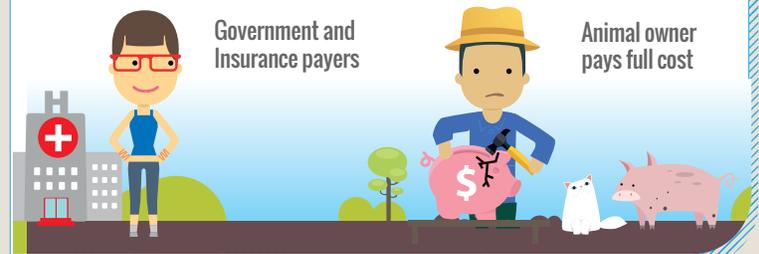
## 3. Assessing the benefits and risks of a medicine

The quantity and type of data legally required by government agencies when reviewing a medicine must be proportionate to sector specifics, 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.



## 4. Who pays for the medicine?

While the cost of human medicine is typically subsidized by third-party payers, the animal owners have to pay the full cost of the medicines needed to treat sick farm animals and/or pets.



## 5. 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).



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The veterinary medicine sector has major differences from the human medicine 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 medicine's value.

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