

## Report to the Federal Parliament: Antibiotic prescription and delivery policy

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The Belgian Court of Audit examined the antibiotic prescription and delivery policy in outpatient care in Belgium.

Despite an antibiotic policy introduced in 1999, Belgium remains one of the European countries with the highest antibiotic use. Every year, antibiotic resistance results in hundreds of deaths in the country.

The Court notes that the policy pursued so far has not been effective in improving the use of antibiotics. It therefore recommends that the federal administrations implement proven action to verify the prescription quality and limit the quantity of antibiotics delivered in pharmacies. A new national action plan has been validated in 2021 by all the ministers concerned. As this new plan is conceived as a dynamic instrument, the federal administrations will have the opportunity to incorporate the Court's recommendations into it.