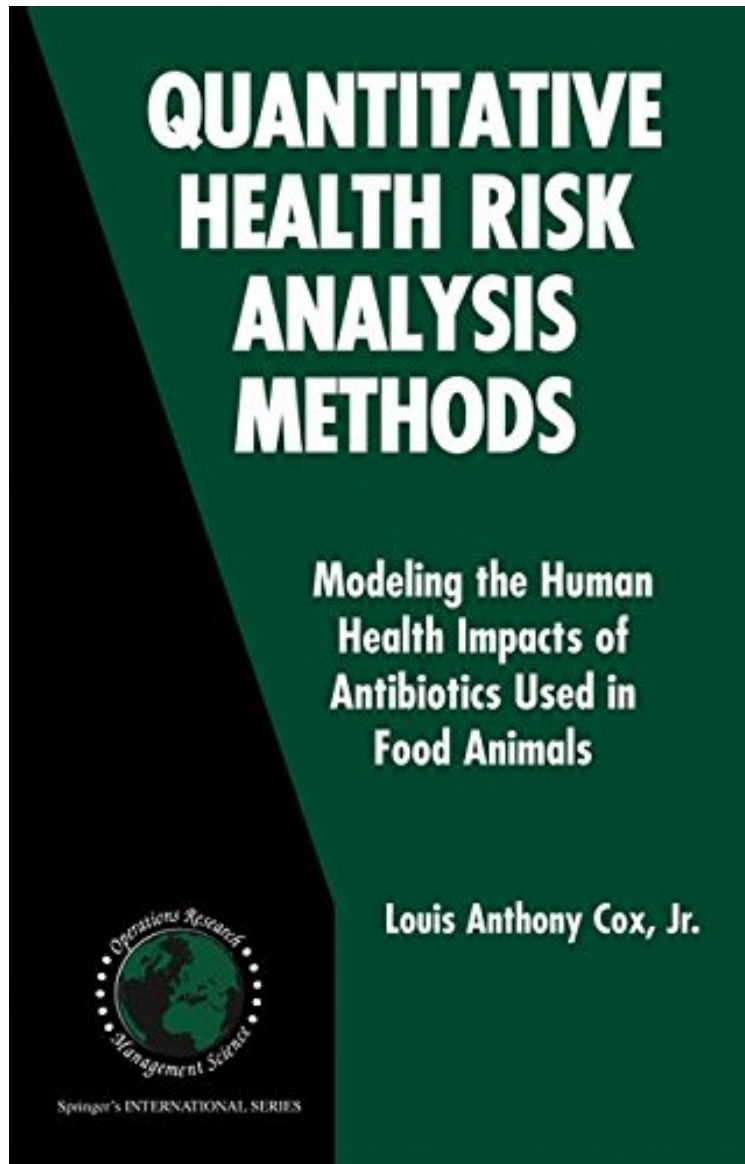


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# Quantitative Health Risk Analysis Methods: Modeling the Human Health Impacts of Antibiotics Used in Food Animals (International Series in Operations Research Management Science)

*Louis Anthony Cox Jr.*  
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before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *Quantitative Health Risk Analysis Methods: Modeling the Human Health Impacts of Antibiotics Used in Food Animals* (International Series in Operations Research Management Science):

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This book grew out of an effort to salvage a potentially useful idea for greatly simplifying traditional quantitative risk assessments of the human health consequences of using antibiotics in food animals. In 2001, the United States FDA's Center for Veterinary Medicine (CVM) (FDA-CVM, 2001) published a risk assessment model for potential adverse human health consequences of using a certain class of antibiotics, fluoroquinolones, to treat flocks of chickens with fatal respiratory disease caused by infectious bacteria. CVM's concern was that fluoroquinolones are also used in human medicine, raising the possibility that fluoroquinolone-resistant strains of bacteria selected by use of fluoroquinolones in chickens might infect humans and then prove resistant to treatment with human medicines in the same class of antibiotics, such as ciprofloxacin. As a foundation for its risk assessment model, CVM proposed a dramatically simple approach that skipped many of the steps in traditional risk assessment. The basic idea was to assume that human health risks were directly proportional to some suitably defined exposure metric. In symbols: Risk = K Exposure, where Exposure would be defined in terms of a metric such as total production of chicken contaminated with fluoroquinolone-resistant bacteria that might cause human illnesses, and Risk would describe the expected number of cases per year of human illness due to fluoroquinolone-resistant bacterial infections caused by chicken and treated with fluoroquinolones.

From the reviews: "This book grew out of an effort to salvage a potentially useful idea for greatly simplifying traditional quantitative risk assessments of the human health consequences of using antibiotics in food animals. It is truly a pioneering study in this previously underdeveloped area of applied risk assessment. This book should be highly instructive to those interested in attempting to model potential human risks of antimicrobial resistance from complex food exposure pathways. The book is a tremendous reference resource ." (T. Postelnicu, *Zentralblatt MATH*, Vol. 1095 (21), 2006) "This extensively treated application clarifies health risk analysis methods to the reader. It is very well readable. ... The book clearly demonstrates the practical power of data-driven quantitative risk assessment in improving modeling of human health risks created and prevented by antibiotics ... . I do recommend this book." (V. de Valk, *Kwantitatieve Methoden*, April, 2007) From the Back Cover "Antibiotic use in animals has aroused sharply polarised views and public anxiety about potential human health risks, stimulated by lack of any objective standard to help navigate among conflicting studies and perceptions. Tony Cox's *Quantitative Health Risk Analysis Methods* represents a giant leap forward, helping to provide such a standard. Notable improvements and increased scientific rigor in public health risk assessment and risk management can be expected from the insightful approaches lucidly described in this book. I will be recommending it enthusiastically to all students of public health." Stephen Page, University of Sydney Veterinary Public Health Management Program "Tony Cox has been a true pioneer in this previously untouched niche area of applied risk assessment. This book should be highly instructive to those interested in attempting to model potential human health risks of antimicrobial resistance from complex food exposure pathways." Rich Carnevale, Animal Health Institute