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A blocking ELISA was developed for the detection of antibodies against PRRS virus with a view to satisfying the need for examination of blood samples on a large scale. The test was evaluated in comparison with an indirect ELISA and the immunoperoxidase monolayer assay. The blocking ELISA was sensitive and specific. It had a higher capacity and was cheaper to perform than the immunoperoxidase monolayer assay and the indirect ELISA. It was comparable to the immunoperoxidase monolayer assay and better than the indirect ELISA in detecting antibodies formed early after infection, and it was superior to both the immunoperoxidase monolayer assay and the indirect ELISA in detecting antibodies at a late stage of infection.

General information
State: Published
Organisations: Sektion for Eksotiske Virussygdomme, Division of Virology, National Veterinary Institute
Contributors: Sørensen, K., Bøtner, A., Madsen, E., Strandbygaard, B., Nielsen, J.
Pages: 1-8
Publication date: 1997
Peer-reviewed: Yes

Publication information
Journal: Veterinary Microbiology
Volume: 56
Issue number: 1-2
ISSN (Print): 0378-1135
Ratings:
BFI (2018): BFI-level 2
Web of Science (2018): Indexed yes
BFI (2017): BFI-level 2
Scopus rating (2017): CiteScore 2.7 SJR 1.175 SNIP 1.241
Web of Science (2017): Impact factor 2.524
Web of Science (2017): Indexed yes
BFI (2016): BFI-level 2
Scopus rating (2016): CiteScore 2.65 SJR 1.363 SNIP 1.206
Web of Science (2016): Impact factor 2.628
Web of Science (2016): Indexed yes
BFI (2015): BFI-level 2
Scopus rating (2015): CiteScore 2.56 SJR 1.413 SNIP 1.21
Web of Science (2015): Impact factor 2.564
Web of Science (2015): Indexed yes
BFI (2014): BFI-level 2
Scopus rating (2014): CiteScore 2.54 SJR 1.291 SNIP 1.256
Web of Science (2014): Impact factor 2.511
Web of Science (2014): Indexed yes
BFI (2013): BFI-level 2
Scopus rating (2013): CiteScore 3 SJR 1.459 SNIP 1.471
Web of Science (2013): Impact factor 2.726
ISI indexed (2013): ISI indexed yes
Web of Science (2013): Indexed yes
BFI (2012): BFI-level 2
Scopus rating (2012): CiteScore 3.18 SJR 1.441 SNIP 1.569
Web of Science (2012): Impact factor 3.127
ISI indexed (2012): ISI indexed yes
Web of Science (2012): Indexed yes
BFI (2011): BFI-level 2
Scopus rating (2011): CiteScore 3.27 SJR 1.56 SNIP 1.729
Web of Science (2011): Impact factor 3.327