Evaluation of a blocking ELISA for screening of antibodies against porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome (PRRS) virus

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.