No evidence of enteric viral involvement in the new neonatal porcine diarrhoea syndrome in Danish pigs - DTU Orbit (26/08/2019)

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The aim of this study was to investigate whether the syndrome New Neonatal Porcine Diarrhoea Syndrome (NNPDS) is associated with a viral aetiology. Four well-managed herds experiencing neonatal diarrhoea and suspected to be affected by NNPDS were included in a case-control set up. A total of 989 piglets were clinically examined on a daily basis. Samples from diarrhoeic and non-diarrhoeic piglets at the age of three to seven days were selected for extensive virological examination using specific real time polymerase chain reactions (qPCRs) and general virus detection methods.

A total of 91.7% of the animals tested positive by reverse transcription qPCR (RT-qPCR) for porcine kobuvirus 1 (PKV-1) while 9% and 3% were found to be positive for rotavirus A and porcine teschovirus (PTV), respectively. The overall prevalence of porcine astrovirus (PAstV) was 75% with 69.8% of the PAstV positive pigs infected with PAstV type 3. No animals tested positive for rotavirus C, coronavirus (TGEV, PEDV and PRCV), sapovirus, enterovirus, parechovirus, saffoldivirus, cosavirus, klasievirus or porcine circovirus type 2 (PCV2). Microarray analyses performed on a total of 18 animals were all negative, as were eight animals examined by Transmission Electron Microscopy (TEM). Using Next Generation de novo sequencing (de novo NGS) on pools of samples from case animals within all herds, PKV-1 was detected in four herds and rotavirus A, rotavirus C and PTV were detected in one herd each. Our detailed analyses of piglets from NNPDS-affected herds demonstrated that viruses did not pose a significant contribution to NNPDS. However, further investigations are needed to investigate if a systemic virus infection plays a role in the pathogenesis of NNPDS.

**General information**

Publication status: Published

Organisations: National Veterinary Institute, Virology, Section for Bacteriology, Pathology and Parasitology, Bacteriology & Parasitology, Section for Virology, Diagnostic & Development, Danish Agriculture and Food Council, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Statens Serum Institut, University of Copenhagen


Number of pages: 11

Publication date: 2017

Peer-reviewed: Yes

**Publication information**

Journal: B M C Veterinary Research

Volume: 13

Issue number: 1

Article number: 315

ISSN (Print): 1746-6148

Ratings:

BFI (2017): BFI-level 1

Scopus rating (2017): CiteScore 2.16 SJR 0.934 SNIP 1.131

Web of Science (2017): Impact factor 1.958

Web of Science (2017): Indexed yes

Original language: English

Keywords: Diarrhoea, NNPDS, Neonatal piglets, Virus

Electronic versions:

s12917_017_1239_5.pdf

DOIs:

10.1186/s12917-017-1239-5

Source: FindIt

Source-ID: 2392840751

Research output: Contribution to journal › Journal article – Annual report year: 2017 › Research › peer-review