

**swine etiology**  
in the Iberian Peninsula:

**statistics**  
exopol

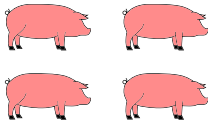




**swine etiology**  
**in the Iberian Peninsula:**  
**statistics**



# which animals should be selected?



analyzing **more than one animal** so that the results are representative of the group of affected animals

*For example, 4-5 piglets from different litters in case of diarrhea in lactating piglets*



selecting **animals with clinical symptomatology at the beginning of the process**: this will allow the evaluation of the primary triggering agents



sending samples **before starting antibiotic treatment**, since it could interfere with the microbiological results



sending samples from **slaughtered animals or, failing that, that have recently died**, since the autolysis of the samples affects the success of the diagnosis

type of sample will be selected based on:

type of process

studied pathogen

requested diagnostic technique





































purpose of the analysis: monitoring or diagnosis

# sampling: requirements and due dates


 room temperature


 chilled

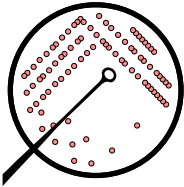

 frozen

		<24h	>24h	comments
 EDTA tubes	 blood			freeze for qPCR studies only
 tubes without anticoagulants	 serum			do not freeze serums with coagulants
 sterile tubes	 tracheobronquial lavage/scraping			freezing will affect microbial culture
	 oral fluids			freeze and ship with freezer packs
 swabs with medium	 livestock and necropsies			
 air-tight container	 skin scraping			
	 feces			freezing will affect microbial culture
	 organs		 	take a swab (for microbiology) and freeze the organ (no use to histopathology)
 environmental and surface samples	 CORIOLIS (air)			freeze and ship with freezer packs always
	 boot swab (dirty s.)			
	 wipes (clean s.)			

# microbial culture

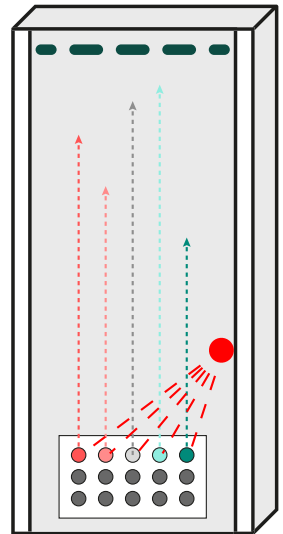
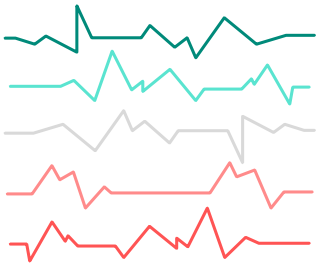
isolating and identify bacteria using MALDI-TOF

## what is it?



clinical samples are sown in the appropriate culture media to obtain colonies of bacterial strains of clinical interest.

the **colonies** that grow are identified through mass spectrometry (MALDI-TOF), which allows for **identification at genus and/or species level** thanks to the “molecular fingerprint” detected through this technique. This molecular fingerprint is specific of each bacterium.



some bacteria are more difficult to grow than others

### **which bacteria are more difficult to grow?**

*Brachyspira* spp., *Clostridium difficile*,  
*Mycoplasma hyopneumoniae*, *Glaesserella parasuis*...

# antibiograms

## antibiotic susceptibility testing (Kirby Bauer method)

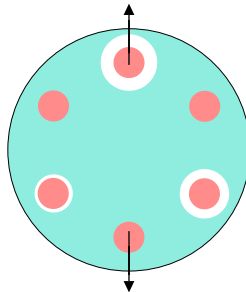
bacterial strains isolated in microbiological culture can be seeded in the right growth media where **discs containing a standardized antibiotic concentration** are placed

depending on the **diameter of the halo** and the it is determined whether the bacteria are sensitive or resistant

### how is this interpreted?

#### **sensitive:**

antibiotic inhibits bacteria growth:  
bacteria cannot grow around the disk because it is sensitive to it



#### **resistant:**

antibiotic does not inhibit bacteria growth:  
bacteria can grow around the disk because the antibiotic does not take effect

you can check the list of

### **antibiotics analyzed in swine**

in antibiograms and in the different MIC panels of the diagnosis page in our website ([www.exopol.com](http://www.exopol.com))



# minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC)

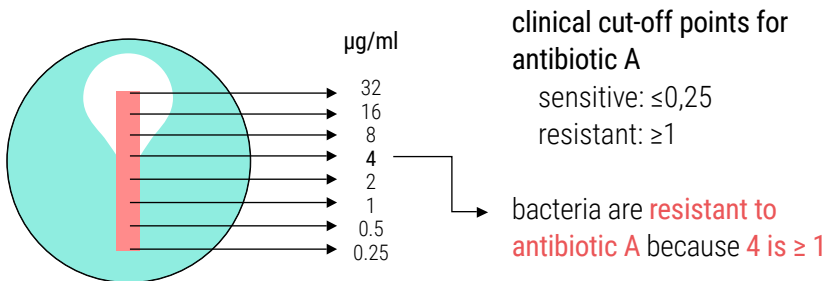
## antibiotic susceptibility testing

minimum concentration of antibiotic that inhibits the growth of bacteria

exopol uses two different methods to check it:

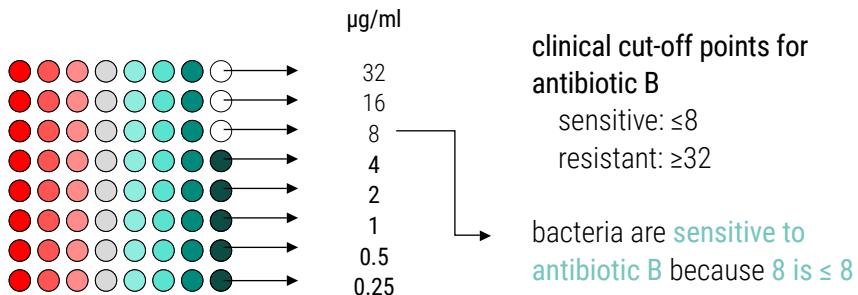
### MIC in cellulose strip (E-test system)

cellulose strip contains an **antibiotic gradient** that is placed on a **culture plate** where the tested bacteria was previously inoculated



### MIC by broth microdilution

testing is performed in 96 well plates where tested bacteria face different concentrations of antibiotic



# categorisation of antibiotic classes for veterinary use (EMA)

## Category D: prudence

**Aminoglycosides:** spectinomycin

**Tetracyclines:** chlortetracycline, doxycycline, oxytetracycline, tetracycline, minocycline<sup>1</sup>

**Group G and M penicillins:** cloxacillin, penetamate, benzylpenicillin (G), phenoxymethylpenicillin (V)

**Sulfamides, diaminopyrimidines and combinations:** sulfadiazine, sulfadimethoxine, sulfadoxine, sulfadimidine, sulfamethoxazole, sulfamethoxypyridazine<sup>1</sup>, sulfaquinoxaline, trimethoprim

**Aminopenicillins:** amoxicillin, metampicillin, ampicillin

**Nitroimidazoles:** metronidazole

**Cyclic polypeptides:** bacitracin

**Nitrofurantoin derivatives:** nitrofurantoin<sup>1</sup>

**Steroidal antibacterials:** fusidic acid (only in companion animals)

## Category C: caution

**Aminoglycosides:** neomycin, gentamicin, streptomycin, apramycin, framycetin, kanamycin, paromomycin, amikacin<sup>1</sup>

**Aminopenicillins combined with beta-lactamase inhibitors:** amoxicillin-clavulanic acid

**Macrolides:** erythromycin, spiramycin, gamithromycin, tildipirosin, tylmicosin, tylosin, tylosin, tylvalosin, tulathromycin, azithromycin<sup>1</sup>, clarithromycin<sup>1</sup>

**Pleuromutilins:** tiamulin, valnemulin

**Lincosamides:** lincomycin, clindamycin, pirlimycin

**Amphenicols:** florfenicol, thiamphenicol, chloramphenicol<sup>2</sup>

**Cephalosporins (1st and 2nd generation):** cefacetrile, cefadroxil, cephalixin, cephalonium, cephapirin, cephalothin<sup>1</sup>, ceftazolin<sup>1</sup>

**Rifamycins:** rifaximin

## Category B: restrict

**Polymyxins:** colistin

**Quinolones:** enrofloxacin, danofloxacin, difloxacin<sup>1</sup>, marbofloxacin, flumequine, pradofloxacin, ciprofloxacin<sup>1</sup>

**Cephalosporins (3rd and 4th generation):** ceftiofur, cefquinome, ceftiofur, cefotaxime<sup>1</sup>, ceftazidime<sup>1</sup>, cefpodoxime<sup>1</sup>

## Category A: avoid

Antibiotics in this category are not authorized as veterinary medicines. They should not be used in food-producing animals. They may be given to companion animals under exceptional circumstances. For example: imipenem, ticarcillin+ clavulanic acid and rifampin.

<sup>1</sup> Not authorized as veterinary medicines in Spain.

<sup>2</sup> Should not be used in food-producing animals for human consumption.

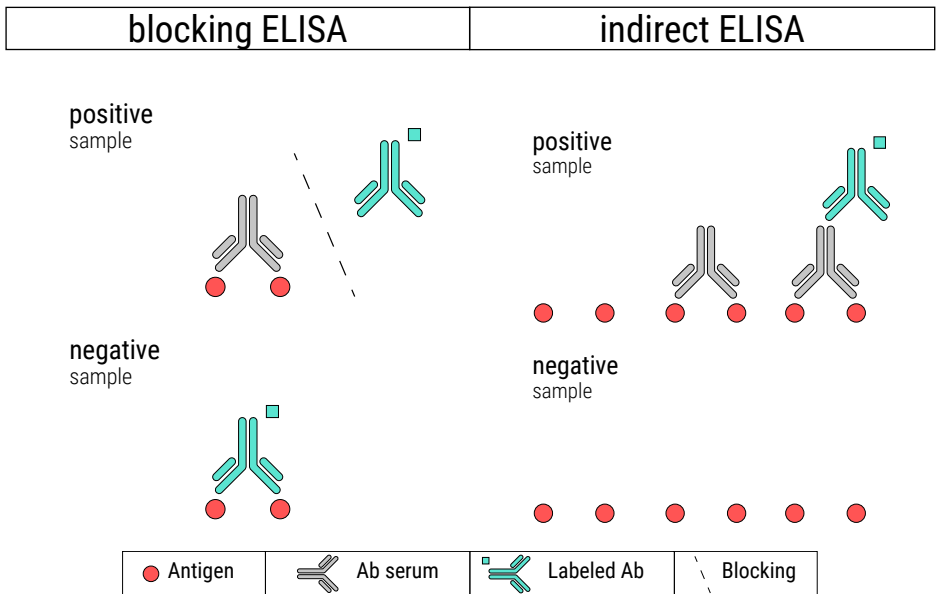
# serology

## what is a serology?:

detection of developed antibodies vs. pathogens

**positive** the animal has been vaccinated or infected

**negative** the animal has never been infected and/or has not seroconverted



- ✓ individual diagnosis
- ✗ not useful for evaluating the rate of antibodies at flock level
- ✓ more specific

- ✓ prevalence at farm level
- ✓ evaluating the rate of antibodies at flock level
- ✗ possibility of false positives if the expected prevalence is low

## DIVA ELISA

- ✓ differentiation between antibodies by field infection and vaccinated animals

# Real Time PCR (qPCR)

## what is a qPCR?:

pathogen detection throughout the amplification process of specific genes

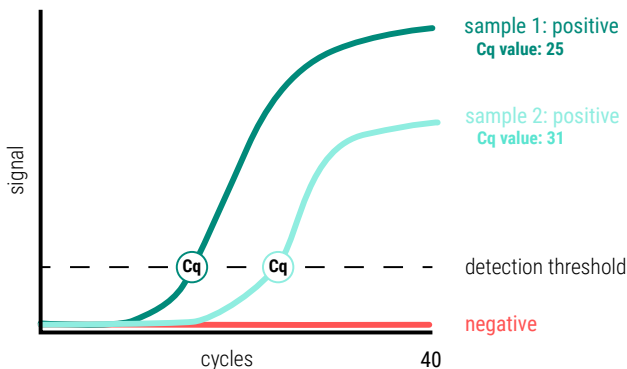
**positivo** pathogen is present in sample

**negativo** pathogen is not present in sample or is present in small quantities below the detection limit

## what are the advantages of a qPCR?

- ✓ pool testing of samples - it is an extremely sensitive technique
- ✓ characterizing and typifying pathogens makes designing applicable autovaccines and choosing the vaccine which protects against the identified serotypes possible
- ✓ differentiating between field strains and vaccine strains
- ✓ carrying out epidemiological studies
- ✓ quantifying: detecting the pathogen concentration present in samples due to Cq value\*

\*Cq value: cycle in which the number of copies exceeds the detection threshold: the lower the Cq value, the higher the concentration of pathogens in the sample



# sequencing

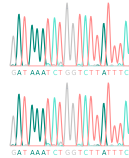
## what is sequencing?:

determination of the nucleotide sequence of one or more genes

## what are its applications?

### sequencing (e.g. *PRRS ORF5*)

we compared the sequences obtained with those of vaccine strains or previous sequenced samples

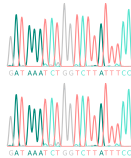


→ we generate phylogenetic trees



### sequencing + genotyping (e.g. *Rotavirus A* or *Influenza A*)

we compare the sequences obtained with those of vaccine strains or previous sequenced samples



→ we generate phylogenetic trees

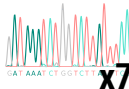


→ we obtain the strain genotype



### MLST technique (e.g. *Brachyspira hyodysenteriae*)

we sequence seven genes



through changes in sequences we determine the alleles of each gene: the combination of the alleles of the 7 genes determines the ST (sequence type)

### MLVA technique (e.g. *Mycoplasma hyopneumoniae*)



we sequence several loci with nucleotide tandem repeats

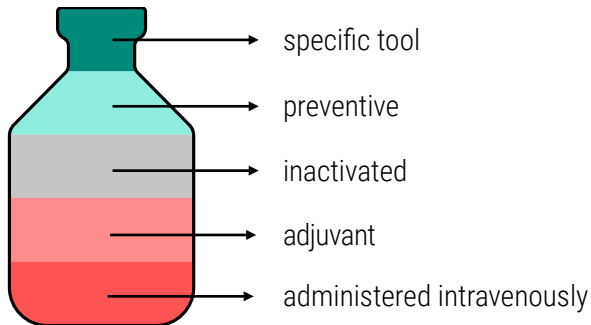


based on the number of repeats we determine if it is the same strain

# autogenous vaccines

## what are autogenous vaccines?






immunological veterinary medicinal products manufactured by the isolation of the pathogenic agents from an epidemiological unit, inactivated and administered to the same herd



## when should autogenous vaccines be administered?

- ✓ when there is no registered standard veterinary vaccine
- ✓ when there is no reasonably effective vaccine (e.g. high antigenic variability)

## what are the requirements that must be met?

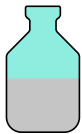
-  presence of an infectious disease
-  confirmatory laboratory diagnosis
-  selecting the involved strains or serotypes
-  under veterinary prescription
-  produced by an authorized laboratory (N<sup>a</sup> REG Exopol: 235/50/015-A)

## specific to each farm

vaccines are not effective against some pathogens if they do not contain the serotypes or antigenic variants present on the farm.

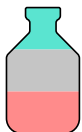
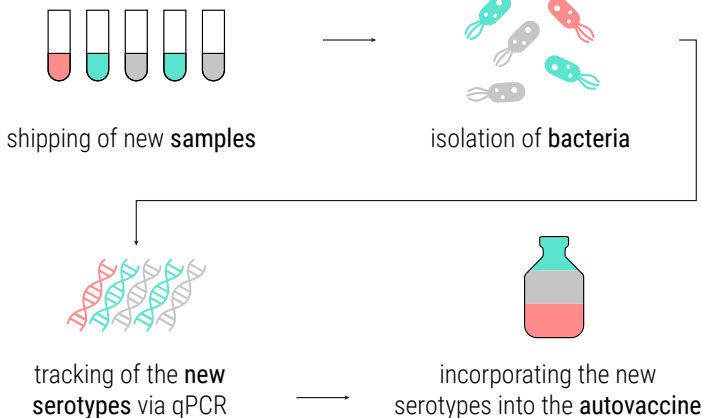
we identify the **serotypes**, **virulence factors**, **toxintypes** or **sequences specific genetic characteristics** of the strains isolated in each case in order to incorporate all of them into the autovaccine, thus guaranteeing maximum efficiency

an example:



### initial autogenous vaccine: two serotypes

→ shipping of new sample to monitor the farm



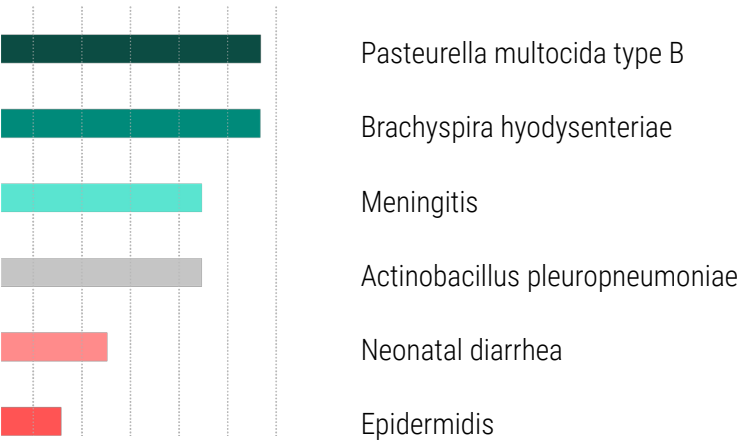
### final autogenous vaccine: three serotypes

# available autogenous vaccines for swine

- Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae
- Brachyspira hyodysenteriae
- Brachyspira pilosicoli
- Corynebacterium spp.
- Clostridiodes difficile
- Clostridium perfringens type A
- Erysipelothrix rhusiopathiae
- Escherichia coli
- Glaesserella parasuis
- Mycoplasma hyorhinis
- Pasteurella multocida
- Salmonella sp.
- Staphylococcus hyicus
- Streptococcus suis
- Trueperella pyogenes

*We prepare autovaccines specific to farms or epidemiological units based on laboratory diagnosis and in which it is possible to combine different pathogens*

## primary autogenous vaccines produced in 2021:





## ● **statistical results:**

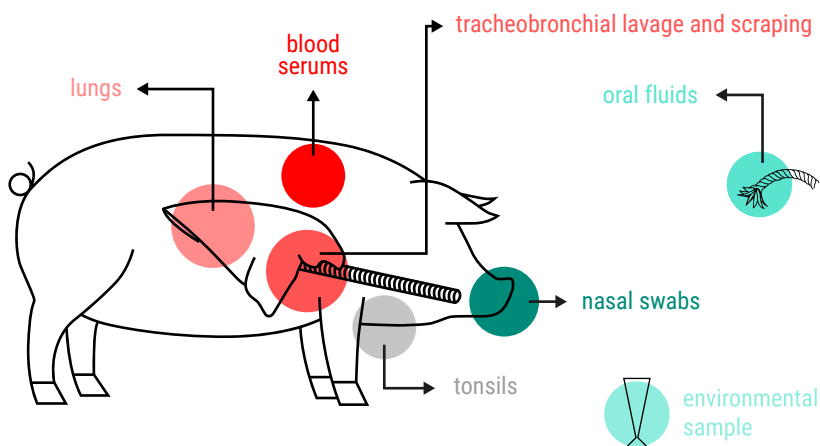
we compiled our laboratory data obtained in the last 5 years to provide you with statistics about the presence and incidence of pathogens in different processes, the evolution of antibiotic sensitivity, what serotypes are present, etc. in Spanish and Portuguese farms

- respiratory processes
- nervous processes, polyserositis, joint processes
- digestive processes
- reproductive processes
- other processes: septicemia and dermatitis



# • respiratory processes

## • sampling



## • diagnostic panels

### Respiratory:

qPCR: PRRS (EU/NA), Influenza A, Circovirus type 2, Circovirus type 3, Mycoplasma hyopneumoniae, Mycoplasma hyorhinis, Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae, Glaesserella parasuis, Streptococcus suis, Pasteurella multocida, Bordetella bronchiseptica, Actinobacillus suis

### Atrophic rhinitis:

qPCR: Bordetella bronchiseptica, Toxinogenic Pasteurella multocida

### Respiratory - Serology:

Serology: PRRS (EU/NA), Influenza A, Mycoplasma hyopneumoniae, Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae, Circovirus type 2 (IgG and IgM)

### Influenza A - Subtyping

qPCR: subtypes H1av, H1hu, H1pan, H3, N1, N2, N1pan

### Influenza A - Sequencing (H gene: haemagglutinin)

Influenza A - Sequencing (N gene: neuraminidase)

Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae - Serotyping

qPCR: Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae, serotypes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9/11, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19

Mycoplasma hyopneumoniae - Description (MLVA)

PCV2 - Sequencing (ORF2)

PCV3 - Sequencing (capside)

PRRS - Sequencing (ORF5)



One of the basic pillars for the **control of PRRS** in a pig holding is **monitoring PRRS**.

A regular inspection can help us **prevent new outbreaks** or know how to **control them more effectively**.

### • PRRS diagnosis

via Real Time PCR:



**health monitoring** with: blood, serum, semen, tongues, processing fluids and oral fluids



sampling and analysis of **air** with equipment CORIOLIS



sampling and analysis of **surfaces, mammary glands and snouts**

serology:

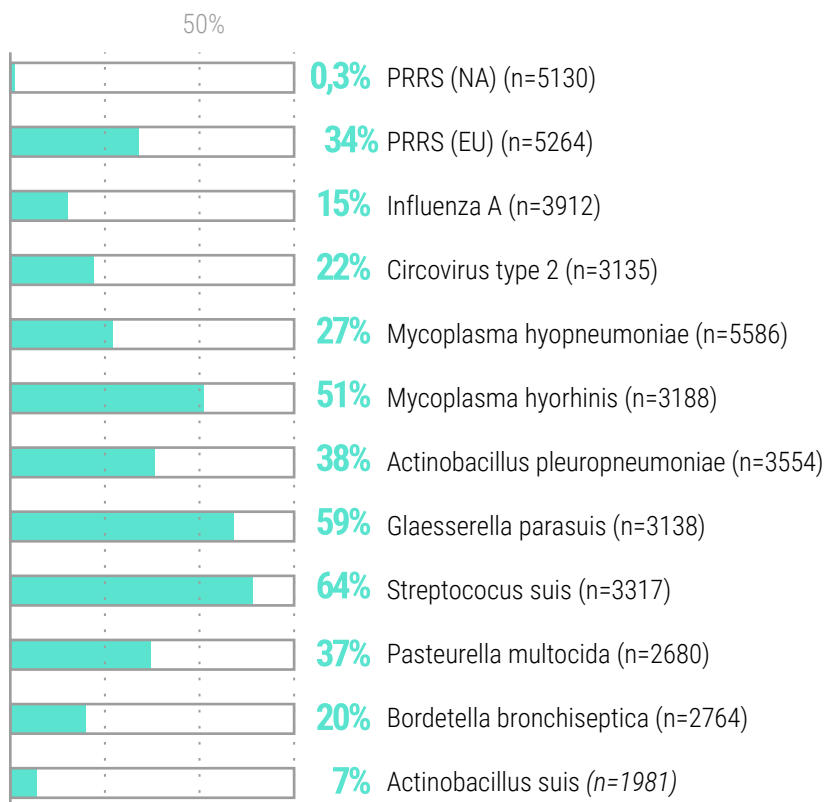


serology control in serums

## • statistical results: diagnosis

### pathogens analyzed in respiratory panel

% positives in the last 5 years

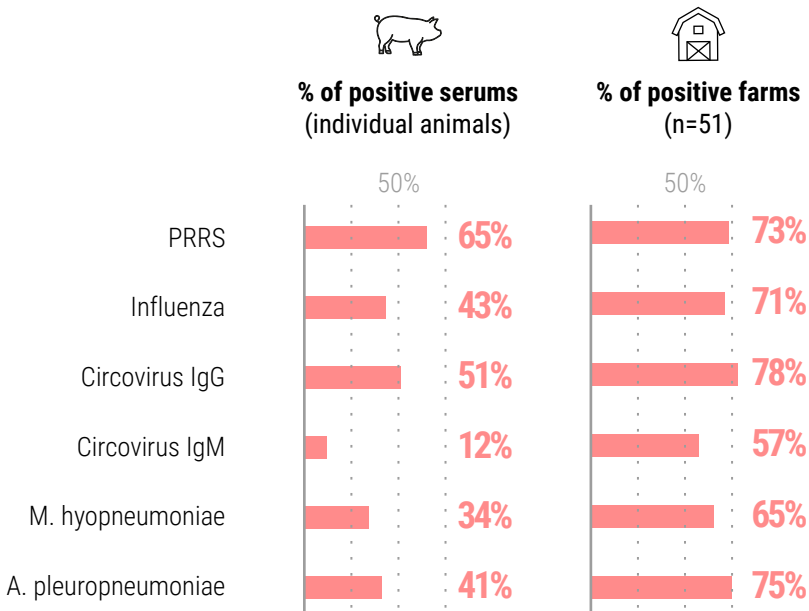


Percentage of positive cases for each of the agents tested via qPCR in the last five years.

It is important to differentiate between **primary agents** that cause respiratory processes, such as **PRRS** or **Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae** and secondary or opportunistic agents (such as **Streptococcus suis**).

It is important to note that most clinical cases are respiratory complexes with more than one agent involved.

**pathogens analyzed in respiratory-serological panel**  
seropositivity study at the individual and farm level using ELISA techniques



These results **should not be taken as prevalence data** since they are **biased samples of animals with respiratory symptoms**.

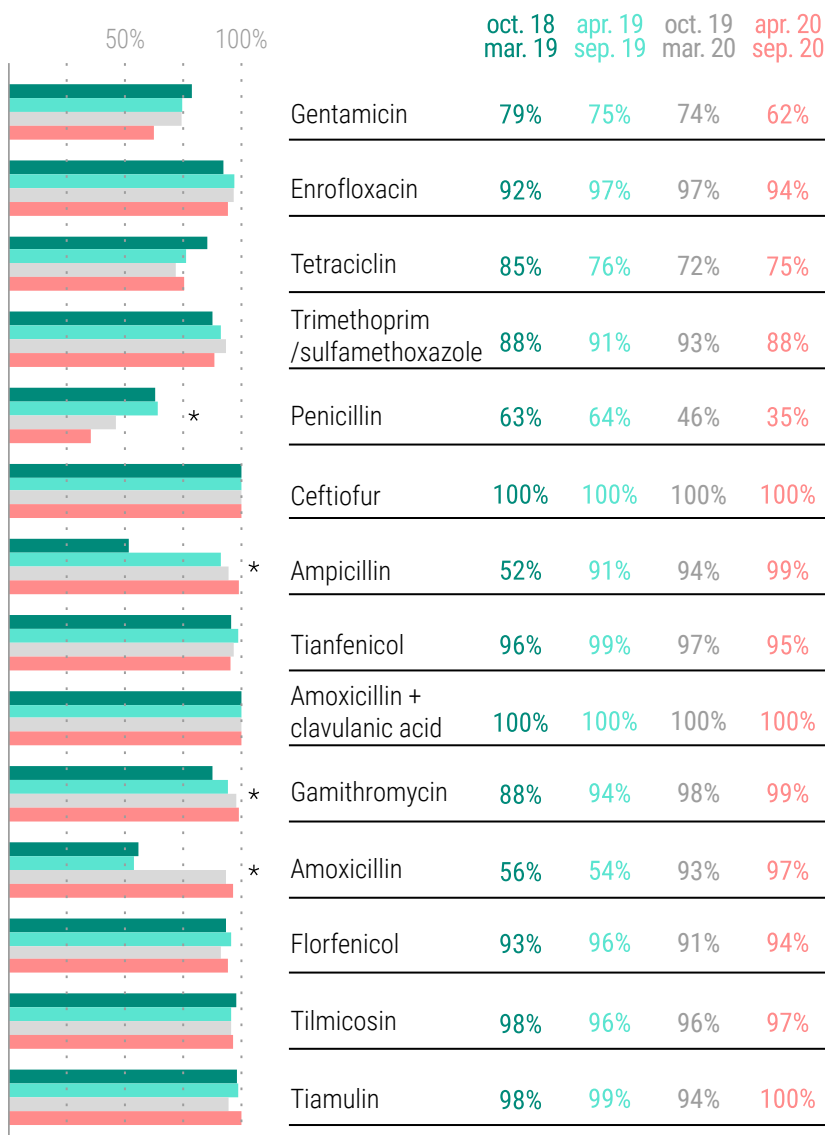
Likewise, bear in mind that **vaccinated animals will have positive serological results** (except in the case of Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae since a DIVA test is performed).

Lastly, a **positive result is indicative of contact with the agent; and it cannot be assessed whether it is an acute process or not**, except in the case of Circovirus, where the presence of both IgM (acute response) and IgG (adaptive response) is detected.

Positive serums: the percentage of positive serums with respect to the total of tested serums. Positive farms: those that have obtained at least one positive serum.

## antibiotic susceptibility testing (Kirby Bauer) of *Pasteurella multocida*

comparison of the sensitivity percentage of 330 antibiograms performed in the following semesters:

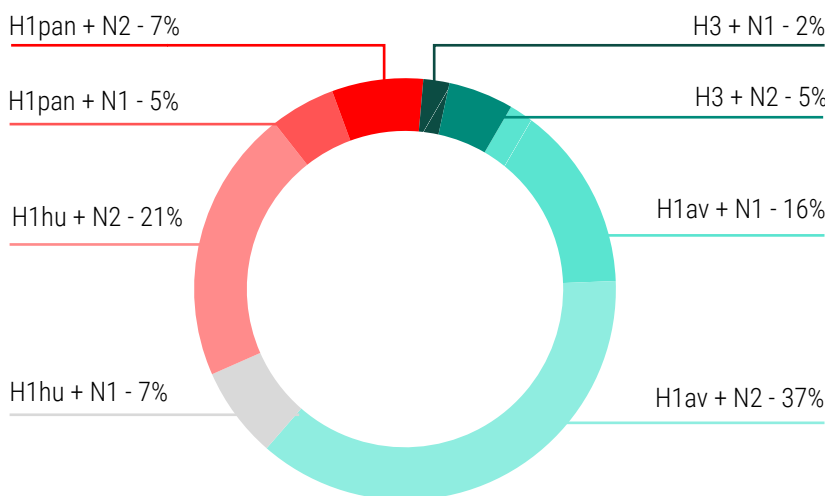


We evaluated the evolution of the sensitivity for each antibiotic over time using the Chi-square test. We considered that time and sensitivity variables are dependent, i.e., there are significant differences between the % of sensitive ones for the different time periods, if  $p\text{-value} < 0.01$  (\*).

In general, these strains show low antibiotic resistance, presenting more resistance to gentamicin, tetracycline, and penicillin. A significant increase in strains sensitive to ampicillin, gamithromycin, and amoxicillin has been observed. However, the appearance of penicillin-resistant strains has increased in recent years.

## Influenza A subtypes identified in the last 5 years

84 clinic cases analyzed in 80 farms



Influenza A subtyping based on hemagglutinin (HA) and neuraminidase (NA) proteins. **The most prevalent subtypes are H1avN2 and H1huN2.**

In 15 % of cases, a co-infection caused by two different subtypes of Influenza A was detected.



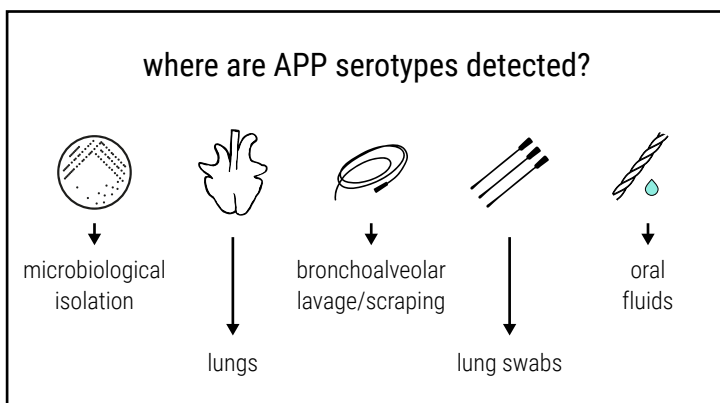


**Porcine pleuropneumonia** is a leading health problem due to the high economic impact it causes.

Control measures for this disease undergo *Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae* serotype characterization. Since immunity is serotype-specific, it is essential to design the best strategy to combat this disease, i.e. the application of autovaccines containing such serotypes detected.

## • serotyping of *Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae*

accurate diagnosis = serotype identification via qPCR  
(1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9/11, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19)



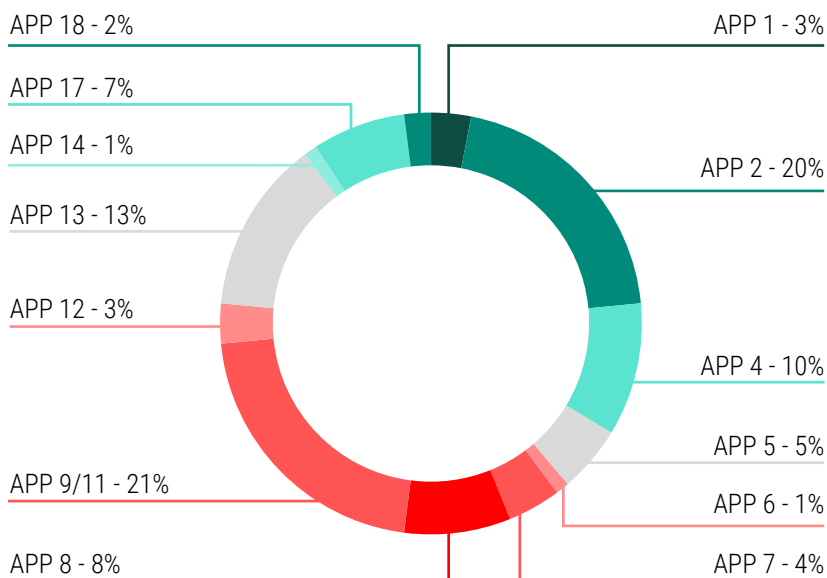
complete diagnosis with **serotype detection**

knowing the **epidemiological status** of a holding

designing a **control strategy** for this disease

## APP serotypes identified in the last 5 years

468 clinic cases analyzed in 381 farms



Serotyping of isolates using the CPS gene, responsible for capsular polysaccharide biosynthesis. Thus far, 18\* serotypes have been analyzed, 9/11, 2 and 13 being the most prevalent in Spain.

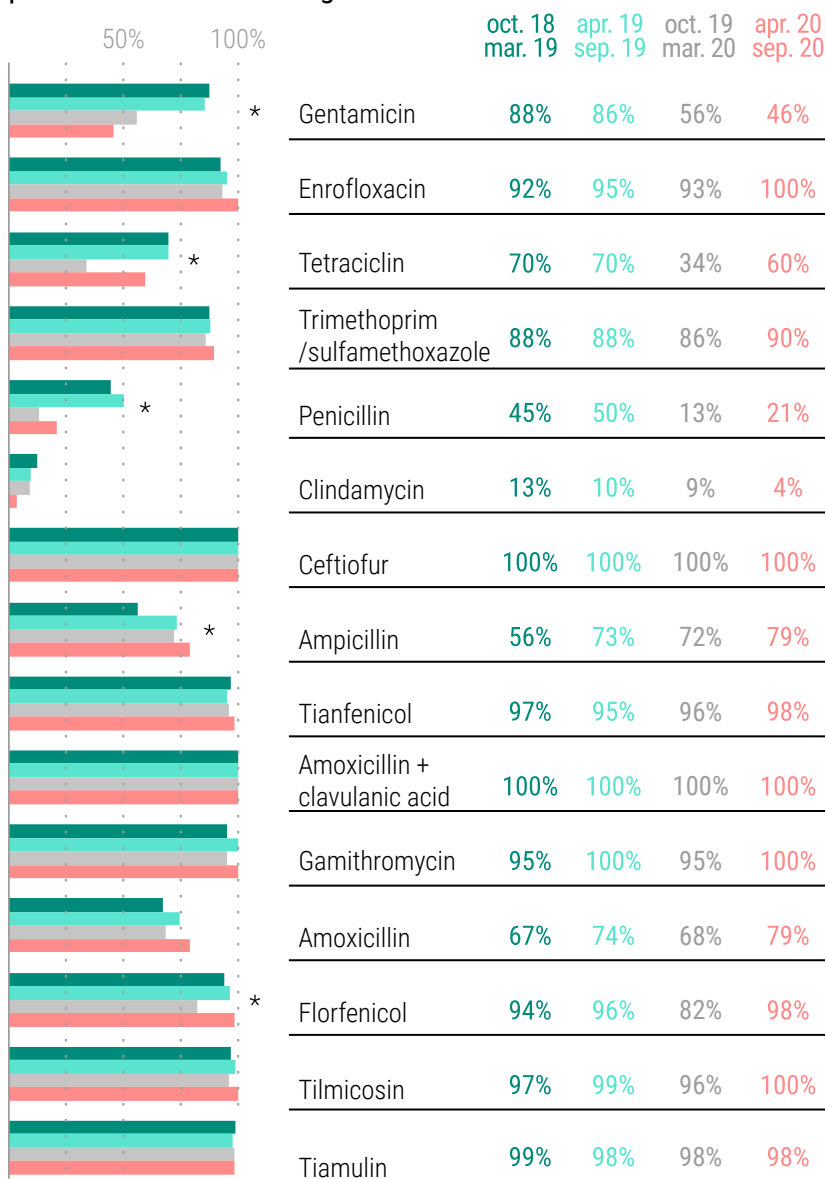
Typing is of great epidemiological interest in order to make preventive decisions, i.e. autovaccines.

*\*This graph does not include the study of serotype 19 since this serotype was recently described.*

In the last 2 years, there has been a **significant increase in strains resistant to gentamicin, tetracycline, and penicillin**. By contrast, sensitivity to ampicillin and florfenicol has increased.

## antibiotic susceptibility testing (Kirby Bauer) of *Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae*

comparison of the sensitivity percentage of 396 antibiograms performed in the following semesters:



We evaluated the evolution of the sensitivity for each antibiotic over time using the Chi-square test. We considered that time and sensitivity variables are dependent, i.e., there are significant differences between the % of sensitive ones for the different time periods, if  $p\text{-value} < 0.01$  (\*).

# antibiotic susceptibility testing (Minimum Inhibitory Concentration) of Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae

MICs carried out in the last three years

Antibiotic	MIC50 (µg/mL)	MIC90 (µg/mL)	sensitive if: (µg/mL)	analyzed samples
Gentamicin	8	>8	≤2	54
Enrofloxacin	≤0,12	>1	≤0,5	55
Tetracycline	8	16	≤0,5	19
Trimethoprim/Sulfamethoxazole	>1	>1	≤2	53
Penicillin	1	>4	≤0,25	54
Clindamycin	4	>8	≤0,5	24
Ceftiofur	≤0,25	>4	≤2	54
Ampicillin	1	>8	≤0,5	54
Gamithromycin	1	>4	≤4	19
Amoxicillin	0,25	>256	≤4	50
Florfenicol	0,5	>4	≤4	53
Tilmicosin	4	>32	≤16	54
Tiamulin	>16	>16	≤16	54
Tulathromycin	≤4	>32	≤64	54
Tylosin tartrate	>16	>16	≤8	53
Marbofloxacin	0,016	0,125	≤1	54
Tildipirosin	1	>8	≤16	19
Danofloxacin	≤0,12	>0,5	≤0,25	54
Chlortetracycline	4	>4	≤0,5	35
Oxytetracycline	4	>4	≤0,5	35

This table shows the MIC50 and MIC90 values of the different antibiotics for APP. MIC50 and MIC90 values are the minimum concentration of antibiotic (in µg/mL) capable of inhibiting the growth of 50% and 90% of the strains analyzed, respectively.

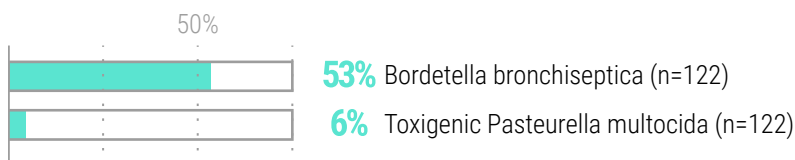
Strains are considered sensitive or resistant based on the clinical cut-off points established by governmental institutions (CLSI or Vetcast).

There is a significant difference between MIC50 and MIC90 of amoxicillin. This could be due to the presence of two populations of APP that show different sensitivity to this antibiotic. 16% of the strains analyzed have resulted in a MIC >256 µg/mL, which leads to the potential presence of a more resistant subpopulation.

These results may be biased, since MIC study is usually performed in the harshest environments, for example when the established antibiotic treatment is not working.

## pathogens analyzed in atrophic rhinitis panel

% of positives in the last 5 years



*Bordetella bronchiseptica*, which is the cause of non-progressive atrophic rhinitis, is the most prevalent agent with 53 % of positive cases, while toxigenic *Pasteurella multocida* has only been detected in 6 % of the cases analyzed.

● **statistical results: autovaccines**

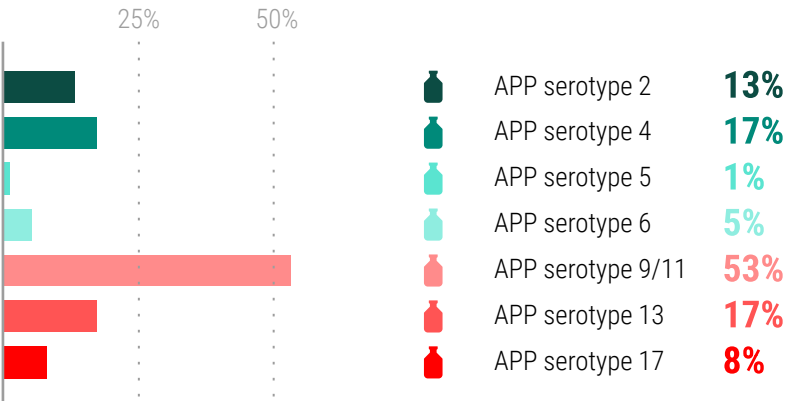
**autovaccines produced for Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae in the last 3 years**

Autovaccines include strains of each epidemiological unit isolated from clinical cases. Detecting more than one serotype is quite common when analyzing outbreaks that happened on different dates or locations. In this case, autovaccines must include all the serotypes detected.

autovaccines including  
1 serotype= **86%**



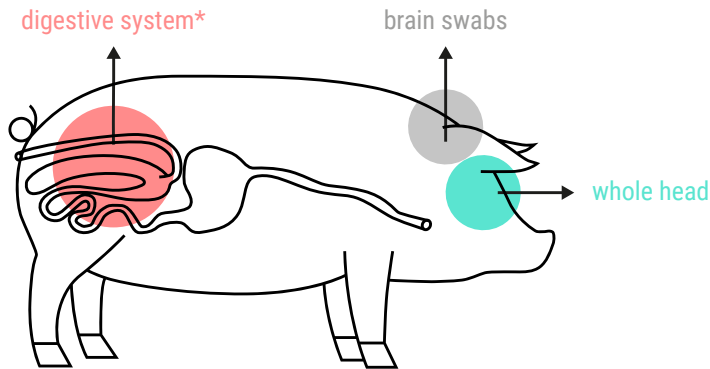
autovaccines including  
2 serotypes= **14%**



The percentages of autovaccines that include the different serotypes are displayed. Please note that the percentages add up to more than 100% because part of these produced autovaccines include two serotypes.

# ● nervous processes

## ● sampling



\* samples for edema disease (ED) diagnosis

## ● diagnostic panels

### Nervous disease:

qPCR: E. coli F18, E. coli STX2e, Glaesserella parasuis, Streptococcus suis - Serotyping

### Glaesserella parasuis - Serotyping:

qPCR: 1/2/11, 2, 3, 4, 5/12, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, virulent strain, non virulent strain

### Streptococcus suis - Serotyping and virulence factors:

qPCR: S. suis, 1-14, 2-1/2, 1-1/2, 2-14, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 14, suilysin (SLY), muramidase-released protein (MRP), extracellular protein factor (EPF)



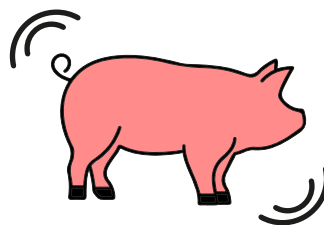
**Atypical Porcine Pestivirus (APPV)** is the causal agent of Congenital Tremor All, disease that leads to the death of piglets before weaning and causes coarse tremors of the head and the rest of the body.

### • APPV identification via qPCR

causal agent

**congenital tremor**

- death of piglets before weaning
- coarse tremors of the head and the rest of the



APPV is becoming increasingly important...



present worldwide



potential economic loss



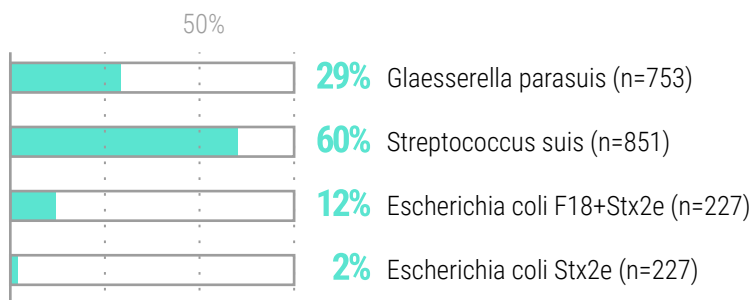
can cause chronic disease and persistent viral infections (PI)



## • statistical results: diagnosis

### pathogens analyzed in nervous panel

% of positives in the last 5 years



The presence of **Streptococcus suis** has been diagnosed in 60% of meningitis cases being studied. Streptococcus suis has been found to be the most prevalent agent followed by **Glaesserella parasuis** (29% of cases).

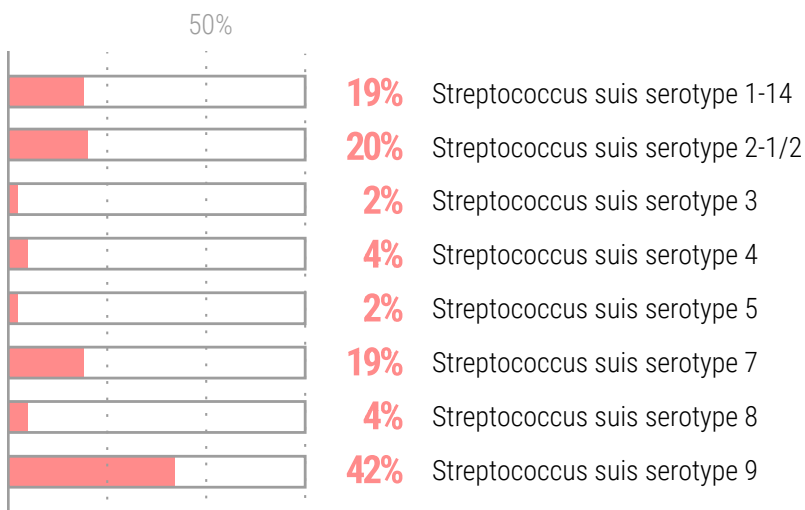
In 12% of cases, the presence of genes encoding **F18 and Stx2e** was detected in the digestive sample, which is compatible with the presence of strains of enterotoxigenic E. coli that cause **edema disease\***.

The presence of **shiga toxin-producing E. coli** was detected in 2% of cases. It was not possible to confirm a case of edema disease since it was not associated with F18 fimbriae.

*\*Results are obtained by comparing the concentration (inferred from Cq value) of the genes encoding fimbriae and toxins with each other and with the total concentration of E. coli in the sample.*

## Streptococcus suis serotypes identified

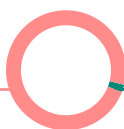
225 clinic cases analyzed in 135 farms in the last 5 years



Streptococcus suis serotype frequency - detected directly in clinical samples. **In 16% of cases, we found a co infection with more than one serotype** and in 9% of cases it has not been possible to determine the serotype. Most prevalent serotypes (in descending order):

- meningitis: 9 > 2-1/2 > 1-14 > 7
- arthritis: 9 > 1-14 > 7 > 2-1/2

serotype 1 = **98%**



serotype 14 = **2%**

serotype 2 = **57%**



serotype 1/2 = **43%**

We recently incorporated **specific differentiation between serotypes 1 and 14 and serotypes 2 and 1/2**. We carried out a retrospective study of a total of 45 serotype 1-14 strains and 54 serotype 2-1/2 strains isolated from **clinical cases of meningitis in the last 3 years**.



Antibiotic use reduction programs led to an **increase in clinical cases of meningitis, polyserositis and arthritis in weaning pigs** caused by *Streptococcus suis*.

Multiple serotypes and virulence factors **whose detection is key to interpreting its role in clinical processes** have been stated. In addition, detection of **serotypes and virulence factors** offers detailed information on the epidemiological situation of the production unit.

### • **typification of *Streptococcus suis***

primary pathogen in cases of

meningitis

arthritis

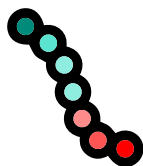
in weaning pigs

primary serotypes

1, 2, 1/2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 14

main virulence factors

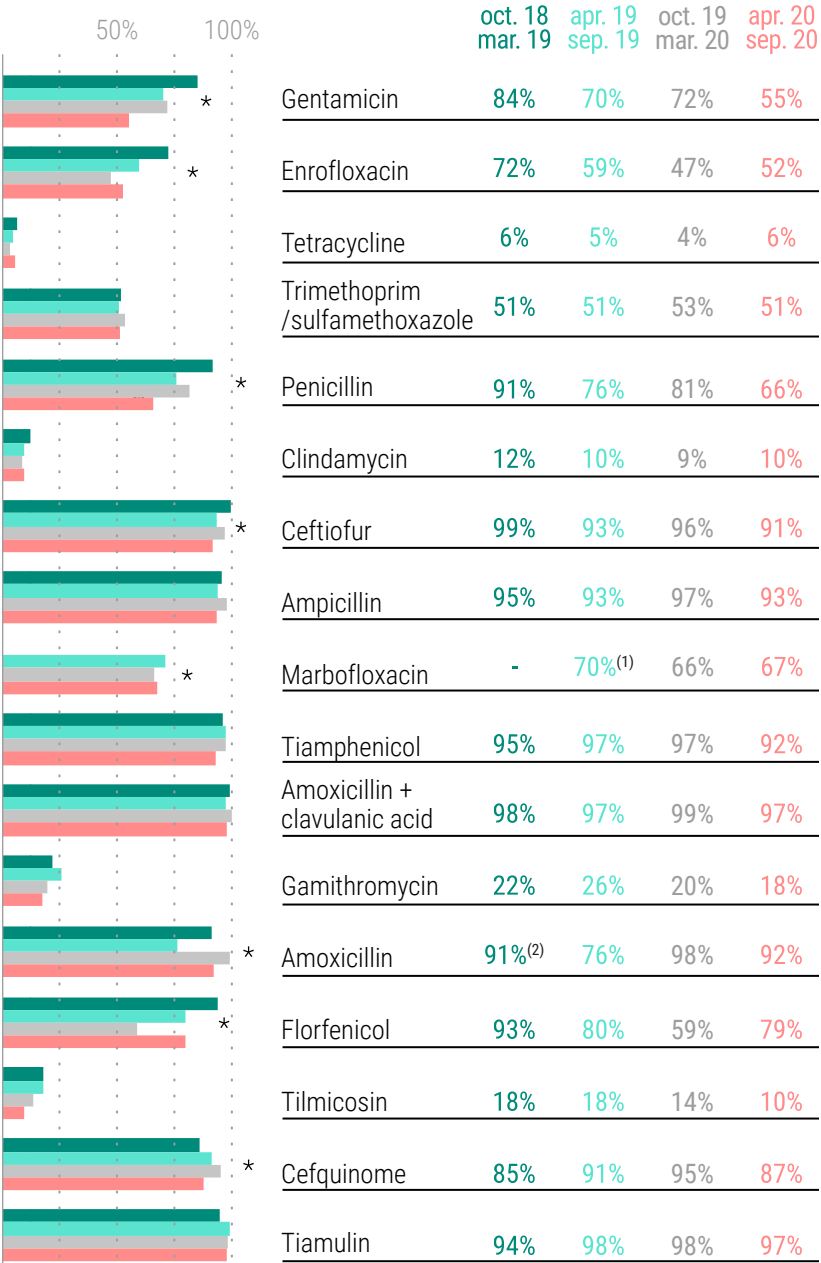
suilysin (sly), extra cellular protein factor (epf)  
y muramidase-released protein (mrp)



typifying *Streptococcus suis* via qPCR both in microbiological isolation and in clinical samples provides key information to take and develop the most effective control measures in our holdings

# antibiotic susceptibility testing (Kirby Bauer) of *Streptococcus suis*

comparison of the sensitivity percentage of 1134 antibiograms performed in the following semesters:



We evaluated the evolution of the sensitivity for each antibiotic over time using the Chi-square test. We considered that time and sensitivity variables are dependent, i.e., there are significant differences between the % of sensitive ones for the different time periods, if  $p\text{-value} < 0.01$  (\*).

(1) Marbofloxacin susceptibility results have been studied as of July 2019.

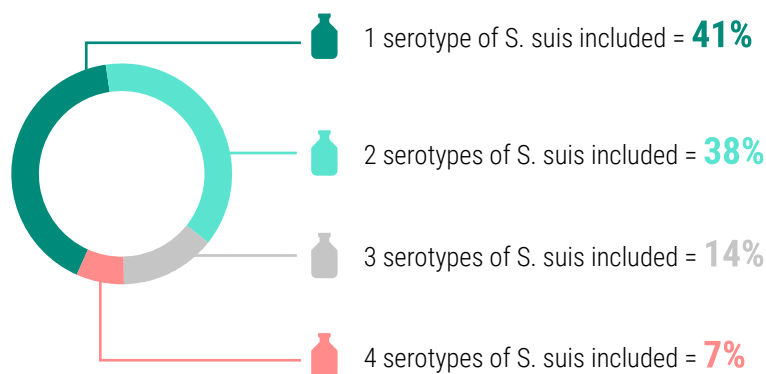
(2) Amoxicillin results have been studied as of January 2019.

Studying a six-monthly evolution since October 2018, we observed a **significant decrease in the sensitivity of the strains against gentamicin, enrofloxacin, penicillin, florfenicol, marbofloxacin and ceftiofur.**

## • statistical results: autovaccines

### autovaccines produced for *Streptococcus suis* in the last 5 years

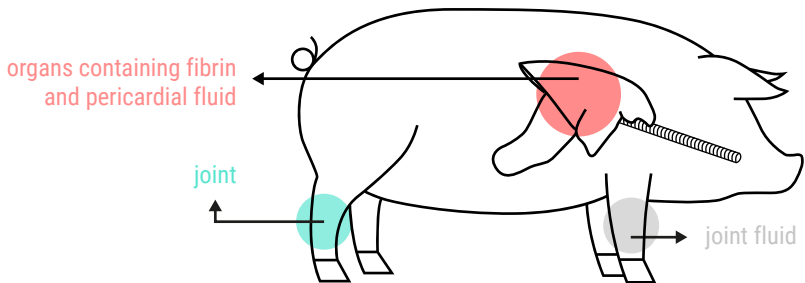
percentage of autovaccines produced with one or more serotypes



The application of *Streptococcus suis* autovaccines in sows helped **reduce the incidence of meningitis, polyserositis and arthritis in weaning animals.**

# ● polyserositis

## ● sampling



## ● paneles diagnósticos

Poliserositis:

qPCR: *Mycoplasma hyorhinis*, *Actinobacillus suis*, *Streptococcus suis*  
- Serotyping, *Glaesserella parasuis* - Serotyping

*Glaesserella parasuis* - Serotyping:

qPCR: 1/2/11, 2, 3, 4, 5/12, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, virulent strain,  
non virulent strain

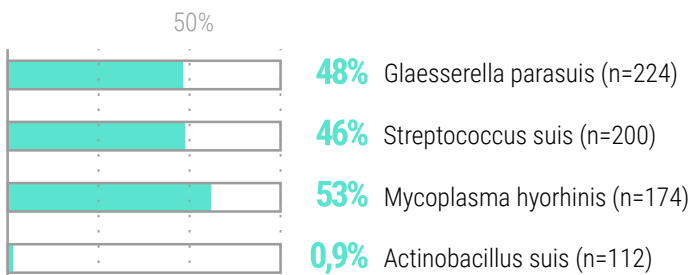
*Streptococcus suis* - Serotyping and virulence factors:

qPCR: *S. suis*, 1-14, 2-1/2, 1-1/2, 2-14, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 14, suilysin (SLY), muramidase-released protein (MRP), extracellular protein factor (EPF)

## ● statistical results: diagnosis

### pathogens analyzed in polyserositis panel

% of positives in the last 5 years



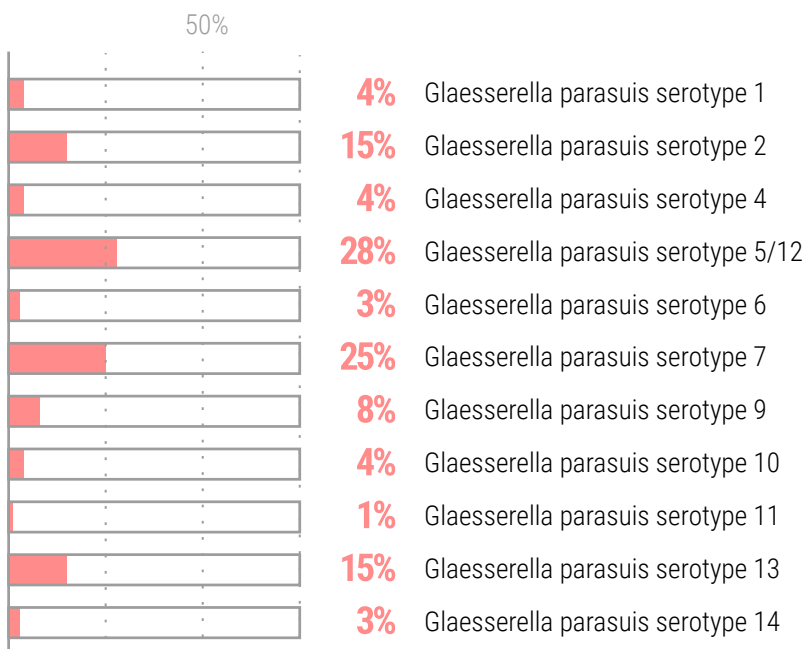
In cases of polyserositis, *Mycoplasma hyorhinis*, *Glaesserella parasuis* and *Streptococcus suis* show a similar incidence. Each of them was detected in **45-50% of the cases analyzed**.

**Co infection** with more than one of these agents is common. It was detected in **58% of the analyzed cases**.

Meanwhile, *Actinobacillus suis* —that was also described as a potential etiologic agent of polyserositis— was detected in **less than 1% of the cases analyzed**.

## Glaesserella parasuis serotypes identified

52 clinic cases analyzed in 35 farms in the last 5 years



Serotyping of *G. parasuis* in clinical samples and isolates.

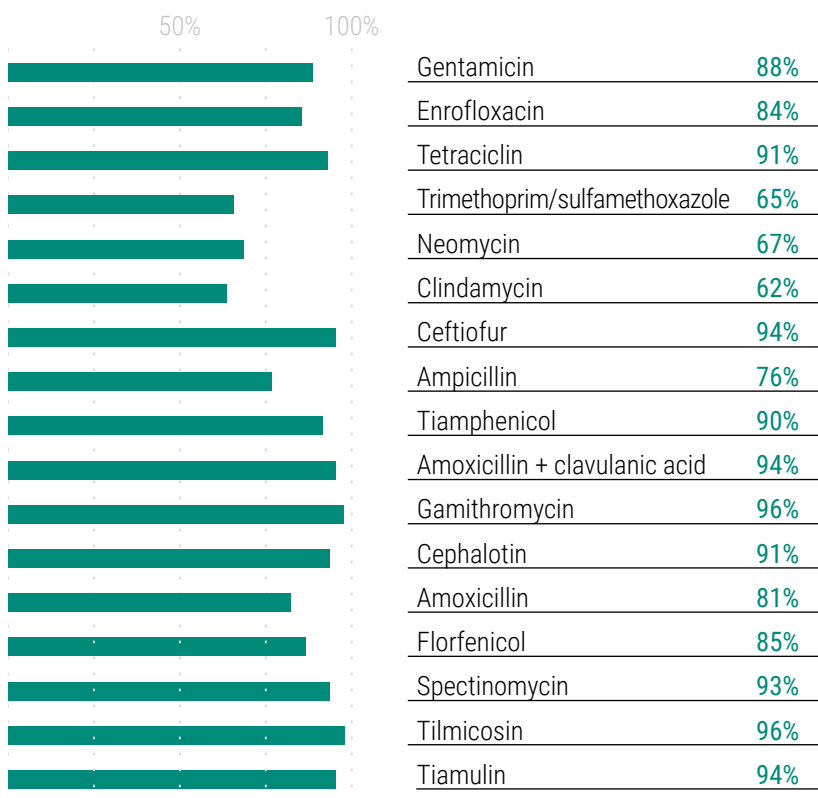
**Most prevalent serotypes (in descending order): 5/12 > 7 > 2 > 13**

In 11% of cases, a co infection with different *G. parasuis* serotypes was detected and in 7% of cases it was not possible to determine the type of *G. parasuis*.

Serotyping is of great epidemiological interest so as to make preventive decisions, i.e. choosing a vaccine or autovaccine.

## antibiotic susceptibility testing (Kirby Bauer) of *Glaesserella parasuis*

comparison of the sensitivity percentage of 82 antibiograms performed since October 2018

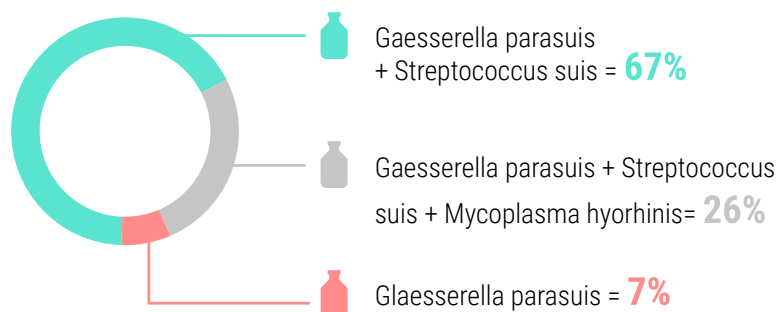




## • statistical results: autovaccines

### autovaccines produced for polyserositis in the last 5 years

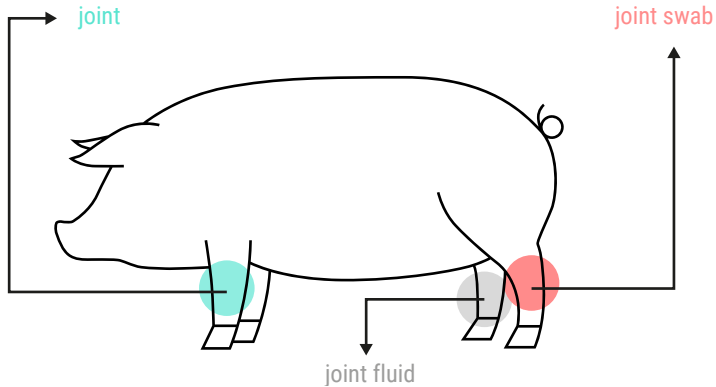
percentage of autovaccines produced with one or more pathogens



Autovaccines are specifically designed for both sows and piglets from each production unit with the strains obtained, **combining different agents and different serotypes** (Streptococcus suis and Glasesserella parasuis) from each of them.

# ● joint processes

## ● sampling



## ● diagnostic panels

### Joint disease:

qPCR: *Mycoplasma hyorhinis*, *Mycoplasma hyosynoviae*, *Glaesserella parasuis*, *Erysipelothrix rhusiopathiae*, *Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae*, *Actinobacillus suis*, *Streptococcus suis* - Serotyping

### *Glaesserella parasuis* - Serotyping:

qPCR: 1/2/11, 2, 3, 4, 5/12, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, virulent strain, non virulent strain

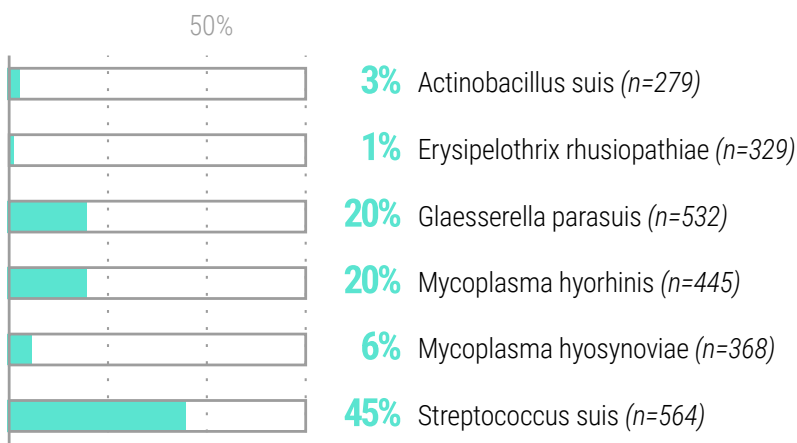
### *Streptococcus suis* - Serotyping and virulence factors:

qPCR: *S. suis*, 1-14, 2-1/2, 1-1/2, 2-14, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 14, suilysin (SLY), muramidase-released protein (MRP), extracellular protein factor (EPF)

## • statistical results: diagnosis

### pathogens analyzed in joint disease panel

% of positives in the last 5 years



Differential diagnosis of infectious causes of joint processes that affect the porcine species.

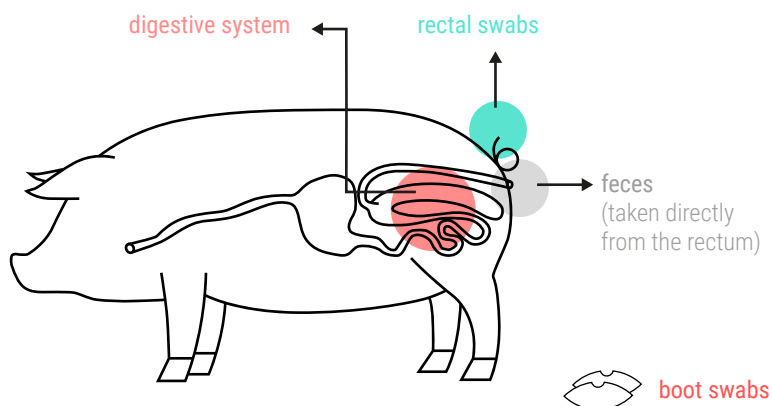
**Streptococcus suis** is the most common infectious agent with **45% of positive cases**, followed by *Mycoplasma hyorhinis* and *Glaesserella parasuis*.

*Mycoplasma hyosynoviae* was detected in 6% of cases. It is an agent that **causes arthritis mainly in growing/fattening animals, replacement female pigs and adult animals**. 12% of clinical cases of joint processes were positive for *Mycoplasma hyosynoviae* in these age groups.



# • digestive processes

## • sampling



## • diagnostic panels

### Digestive (piglets):

qPCR: Escherichia coli - Virulence factors, Clostridium perfringens  
 - Toxins, Enterococcus hirae, Rotavirus A, Rotavirus C, PEDV,  
 Transmissible gastro enteritis (TGE), Isospora suis, Clostridioides  
 difficile

### Digestive (postweaning):

qPCR: R: Escherichia coli - Virulence factors, Salmonella sp.,  
 Rotavirus A, PEDV

### Digestive (fattening and adult animal):

qPCR: Lawsonia intracelullaris, Brachyspira hyodysenteriae,  
 Brachyspira pilosicoli, Brachyspira intermedia, Salmonella sp., PEDV

### Swine dysentery:

Microbiology: Brachyspira insolation, Brachyspira sp. MIC  
qPCR: Brachyspira hyodysenteriae

### Brachyspira - Isolation (up to 5 sample)

Coprological:

qPCR: Eimeria sp., Isospora suis, Entamoeba suis, Nematodes, Trichuris suis, Cestodes, Trematod

Escherichia coli - Virulence factors:

qPCR: E. coli gen eae, F4, F5, F6, F41, F18, STa, STb, LT, STX2e, AIDA, EAST, Escherichia coli

Clostridium perfringens - Toxins:

qPCR: Alpha, Beta, Epsilon, Iota, Enterotoxina, Beta-2


Brachyspira hyodysenteriae - Description (MLST)

Rotavirus A - Sequencing (VP7, VP4)

PEDV - Sequencing (Spike-S1)

Salmonellae swine:

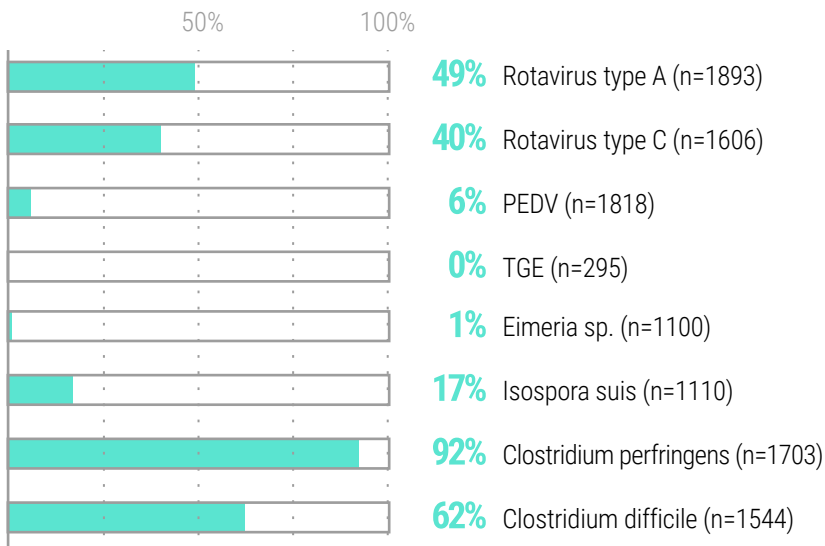
qPCR: Salmonella enteritidis, Salmonella typhimurium, Salmonella choleraesuis

 · <b>main Salmonella serovar detection via qPCR</b>		
	<b>S. choleraesuis</b>	<b>S.typhimurium</b>
affects	breeding sows	young animals (+8 weeks)
symptoms	fever, septicemia, depression, pneumonia, meningitis, arthritis, diarrhea	diarrhea
causes	clinical illnesses at times of elevated stress excretion	channel contamination (affects food hygiene)

• statistical results: diagnosis

## pathogens analyzed in digestive panel during lactation

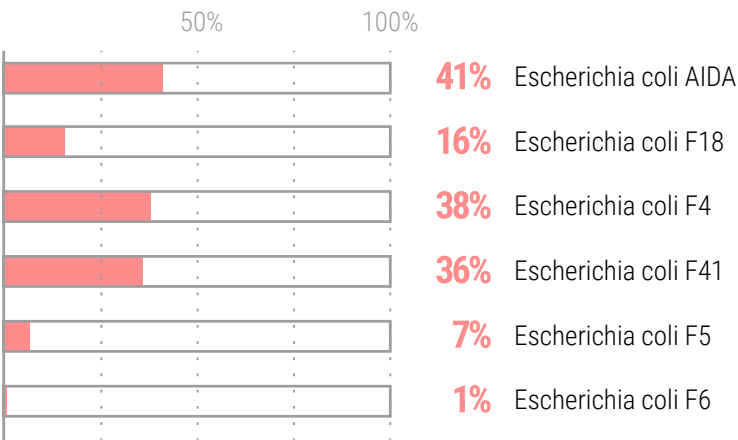
% of positives in the last 5 years



**Diarrhea in sucking piglets is a multifactorial process** in which infectious agents and predisposing factors exist side-by-side. Detecting more than one infectious agent involved is the most common case scenario.

# colibacillosis in sucking piglets:

% presence of fimbriae in clinical digestive samples from suspected cases of enterotoxigenic Escherichia coli (ETEC)\* in 94 clinical samples analyzed



In lactating piglets, colibacillosis occurs mainly due to toxinogenic strains (ETEC) that adhere to the epithelium through fimbriae and adhesins, and produce the toxins that cause diarrhea (Sta, Stb, LT or EAST).

Patterns compatible with major ETEC strains were detected in 13% of the cases analyzed\*. Enteropathogenic (EPEC) strains carriers of the EAE gene that lead to malabsorption due to the adhesion to the epithelium are also involved.

The presence of the EAE gene (EPEC strain) in clinical samples is extremely high (63% of cases), however high concentrations of its clinical implication are only found in 5% of the cases\*.

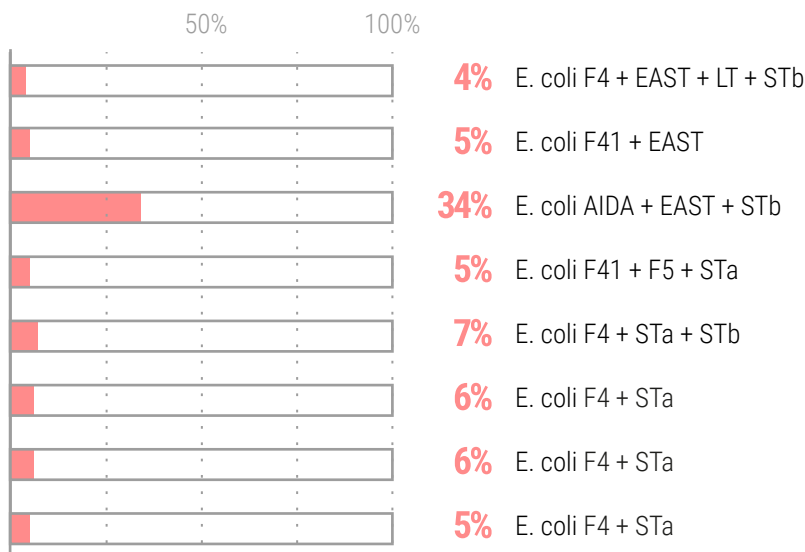
*\*Results are obtained by comparing the concentration (inferred from Cq value) of the genes encoding fimbriae, adhesins and toxins with each other and with the total concentration of E. coli in the sample.*



## colibacillosis in sucking piglets:

most common enterotoxigenic *Escherichia coli* (ETEC)\*

pathotypes in sucking piglets in 94 clinical samples tested



In ETEC strains, the most prevalent adhesion factors are the AIDA adhesin and the F4 and F41 fimbriae. However, the involvement of AIDA in cases of diarrhea is still under scientific discussion.

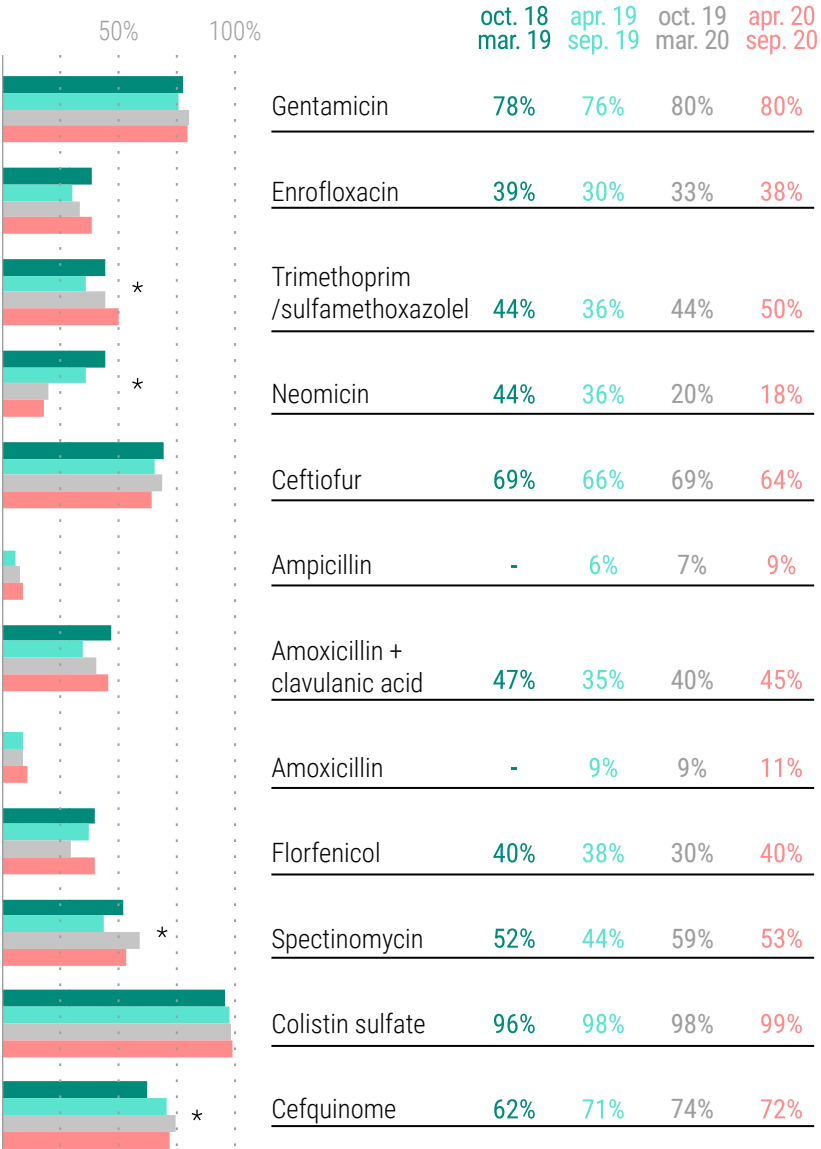
It should be stressed that we have found the presence of more than one of these adhesion factors in the same strain in 12% of the cases.

A wide variety of ETEC strains appear depending on the combination of fimbriae/adhesins and toxins. The predominant pathotype is the combination of AIDA adhesin and EAST and Stb toxins\*.

*\*Results are obtained by comparing the concentration (inferred from Cq value) of the genes encoding fimbriae, adhesins and toxins with each other and with the total concentration of *E. coli* in the sample.*

# antibiotic susceptibility testing (Kirby Bauer) of *Escherichia coli* in sucking piglets

comparison of the sensitivity percentage of 1203 antibiograms performed in the following semesters:



We evaluated the evolution of the sensitivity for each antibiotic over time using the Chi-square test. We considered that time and sensitivity variables are dependent, i.e., there are significant differences between the % of sensitive ones for the different time periods, if  $p\text{-value} < 0.01$  (\*).

When studying the evolution, there was a **significant increase in neomycin resistant strains**. However, there was a slight increase in the sensitivity of the strains against trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole and cefquinome.



Toxin typing of *Clostridium perfringens* helps us know what type of toxins produced by the strain have been detected. Since *C. perfringens* is a pathogen that is part of the gut microbiome, we can complete the diagnosis. The isolation of *C. perfringens* does not necessarily indicate that it is the cause of the process.

In addition, it will help us to make decisions about preventive measures such as selecting vaccines that include the toxinotypes present on the holding.

### • toxin typing of *Clostridium perfringens*

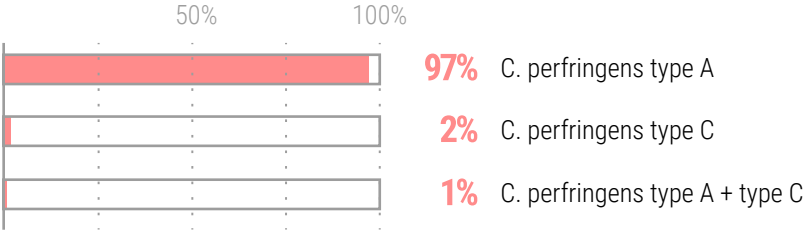
*Clostridium perfringens* strains are classified into five toxinotypes based on the production of four toxins

	Alpha	Beta	Epsilon	Iota
tipo A	+	-	-	-
tipo B	+	+	+	-
tipo C	+	+	-	-
tipo D	+	-	+	-
tipo E	+	-	-	+

the strains of these toxinotypes can also produce ENT and  $\beta_2$  toxins.

# typification of Clostridium perfringens in the last 5 years

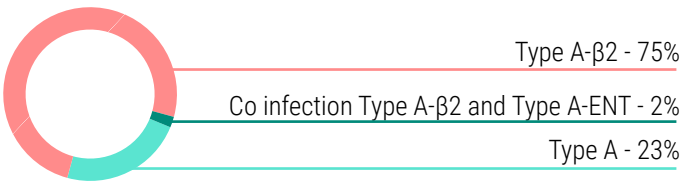
653 clinic cases analyzed in 333 farms



97% of cases of diarrhea in lactating piglets positive for Clostridium perfringens are type A, 2% are type C, and in 1% of cases both toxinotypes are detected. Type C was detected in such a small number of cases. This is probably due to widespread use of vaccination plans against this agent.

A potential co-infection of different strains has been found in the sample based on the concentration of each gene inferred from Cq.

## C. perfringens type A positive for toxin β2 and ENT



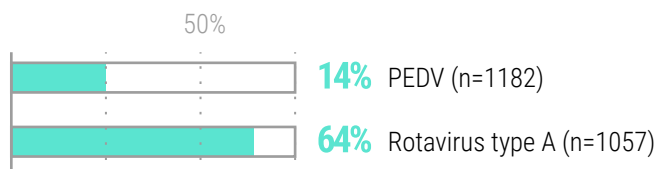
The presence of enterotoxins (ENT), and especially β2 toxin, relates to strains of Clostridium perfringens type A of greater pathogenic capacity.

75% of positive cases compatible with Clostridium perfringens type A were also positive for β2 toxin. 2% of cases showed genes encoding both β2 toxin and enterotoxin, signs of co-infection.

β2 toxin was found in all positive cases for C. perfringens type C.

## viral pathogens tested in digestive panel in weaning pigs

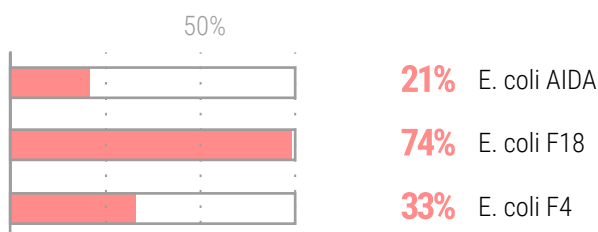
% of positives in the last 5 years



Rotavirus type A was found in 64% of the cases of diarrhea in weaning animals in the last 5 years, while PEDV was only identified in 14%.

## colibacillosis in weaning animals:

% of presence of fimbriae in digestive samples of suspected cases of enterotoxigenic *Escherichia coli* (ETEC)\* in 503 clinical samples analyzed

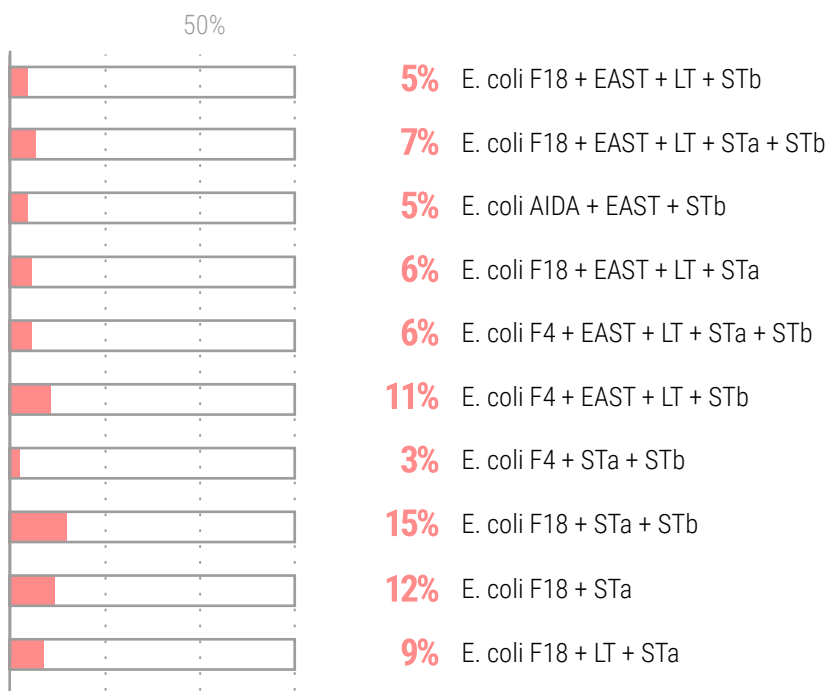


In weaning animals, colibacillosis is characterized by two processes: **post-weaning diarrhea caused by enterotoxigenic (ETEC) strains** and, to a lesser extent, diarrhea caused by enteropathogenic strains (EPEC) producing intimin encoded by the *eae* gene.

In 37% of cases, virulence factors compatible with the majority presence of an ETEC strain were detected, while 6% of cases are related to an EPEC strain\*.

*\*Results are obtained by comparing the concentration (inferred from Cq value) of the genes encoding fimbriae, adhesins and toxins with each other and with the total concentration of E. coli in the sample.*

## colibacillosis in weaning animals: most common enterotoxigenic Escherichia coli (ETEC)\* pathotypes in weaning piglets in 503 clinical samples tested

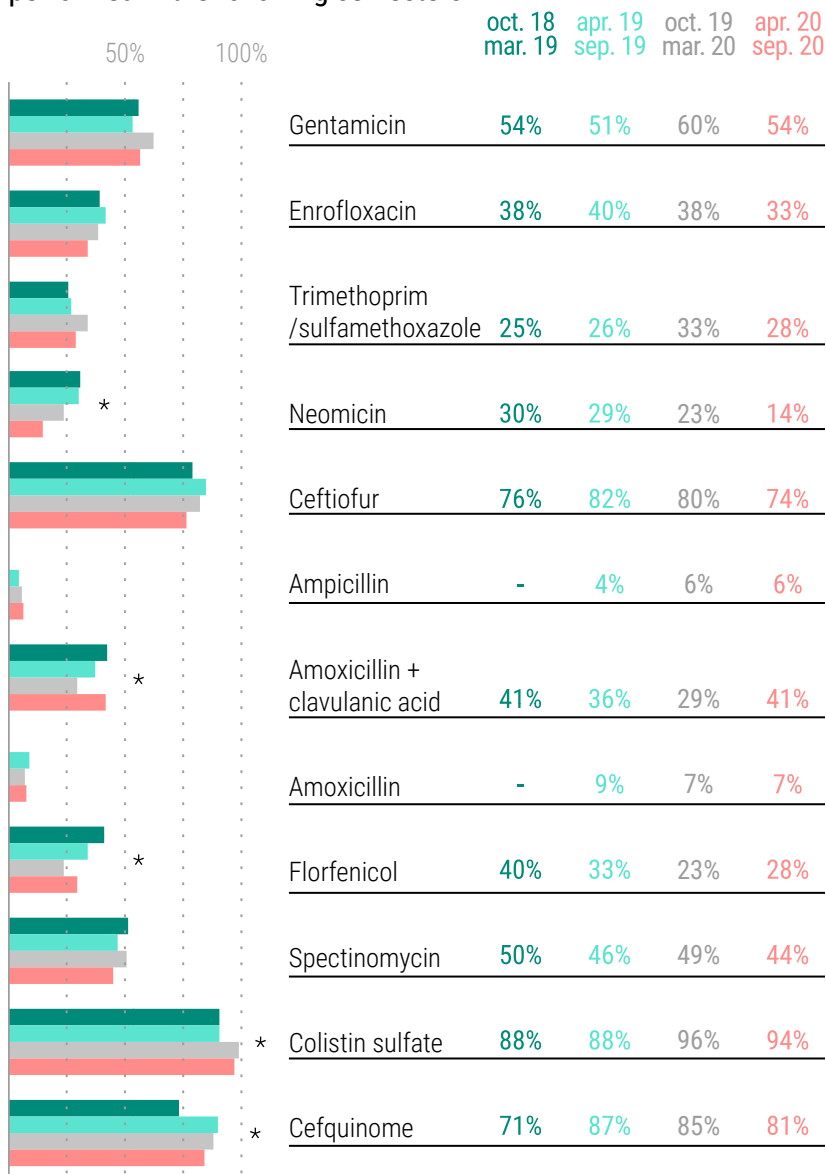


In case of post-weaning diarrhea due to ETEC strains, **the most prevalent fimbria is F18, present in 74% of the strains considered as majority.** In 13% of the strains there was a combination of more than one adhesion factor. **The combination of F18 and Sta and Stb toxins is the most common one.**

*\*Results are obtained by comparing the concentration (inferred from Cq value) of the genes encoding fimbriae, adhesins and toxins with each other and with the total concentration of E. coli in the sample.*

## antibiotic susceptibility testing (Kirby Bauer) of *Escherichia coli* in weaning piglets

comparison of the sensitivity percentage of 1323 antibiograms performed in the following semesters:



We evaluated the evolution of the sensitivity for each antibiotic over time using the Chi-square test. We considered that time and sensitivity variables are dependent, i.e., there are significant differences between the % of sensitive ones for the different time periods, if  $p\text{-value} < 0.01$  (\*).

Colistin, cefquinome and ceftiofur are the antibiotics with greater effectiveness *in vitro* against E. coli strains isolated from weaning animals with diarrhea.

In the last two years there has been a significant decrease in the proportion of strains sensitive to neomycin and florfenicol. The proportion of strains sensitive to colistin has significantly increased, most likely due to the reduction in the use of this antibiotic.

## antibiotic susceptibility testing (Minimum Inhibitory Concentration) of Escherichia coli in weaning animals

MICs carried out in the last three years

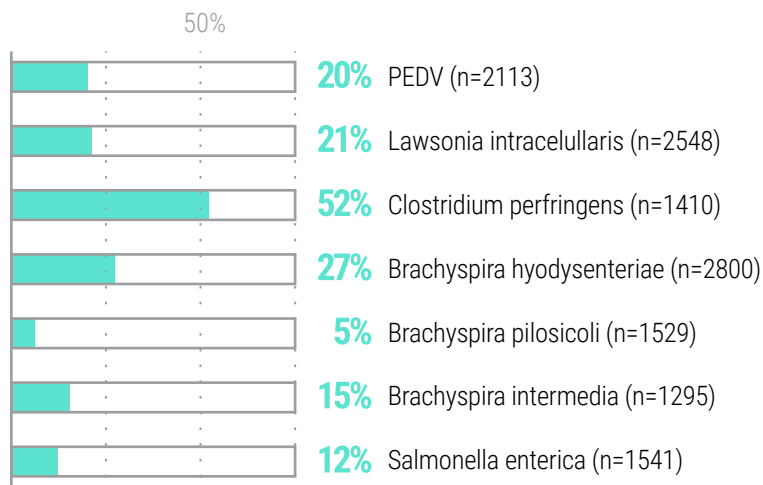
Antibiotic	MIC50 (µg/mL)	MIC90 (µg/mL)	sensitive if: (µg/mL)	analyzed samples
Gentamicin	>16	>16	≤2	59
Enrofloxacin	>2	>2	≤0,25	60
Trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole	>2	>2	≤2	56
Neomycin	>32	>32	≤6	58
Ceftiofur	0,5	>8	≤2	56
Ampicillin	>16	>16	≤8	57
Amoxicillin + clavulanic acid	16	64	≤0,25	54
Florfenicol	>8	>8	≤2	56
Spectinomycin	>64	>64	≤32	56
Colistin	2	4	≤2	55

MIC study is usually carried out in the most complicated cases, e.g. when the established antibiotic treatment is not working properly, so results are expected to be biased towards particularly resistant strains.



## pathogens analyzed in digestive panel in grow-finish phase animals

% of positives in the last 5 years



In cases of digestive processes in adult animals, **Brachyspira hyodysenteriae**, **Lawsonia intracellularis** and **PEDV** are the main **infectious agents** found to be the etiological cause.

**Clostridium perfringens** was detected in 52% of samples, but its presence does not necessarily presuppose a case of enterotoxaemia since it is part of the gut microbiome. The symptomatology, lesions and concentration detected must be jointly evaluated.

# antibiotic susceptibility testing (Minimum Inhibitory Concentration) of Brachyspira hyodysenteriae

MICs carried out in the last three years

Antibiotic	MIC50 (µg/mL)	MIC90 (µg/mL)	sensitive if: (µg/mL)	samples analyzed	% sensitive
Lincomycin	16	>64	≤50	172	76,7%
Tiamulin	1	>8	≤0,5	172	42,4%
Tylosin Tartrate	>128	>128	≤32	172	12,8%
Tylvalosin	4	16	≤32	172	95,3%
Valnemulin	0,5	4	≤2	172	86,0%

The antibiotic susceptibility study\* against Brachyspira hyodysenteriae is not routinely performed in all cases. This leads to a bias towards cases caused by especially resistant strains.

*\* Used cut-off points were established by the Clinical & Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI), except for lincomycin. In this case, cut-off points have not been officially established, and therefore cut-off points described in literature have been used. These cut-off points vary depending on the author and the concentration of antibiotic used in animal feed. A vast number of strains show resistance to tylosin, which is consistent with field results obtained in recent years.*



Characterization of B. hyodysenteriae via MLST makes implementing epidemiological control measures, limiting the extent of the disease and designing autovaccines easier.



sequencing  
seven genes



identifying  
corresponding alleles



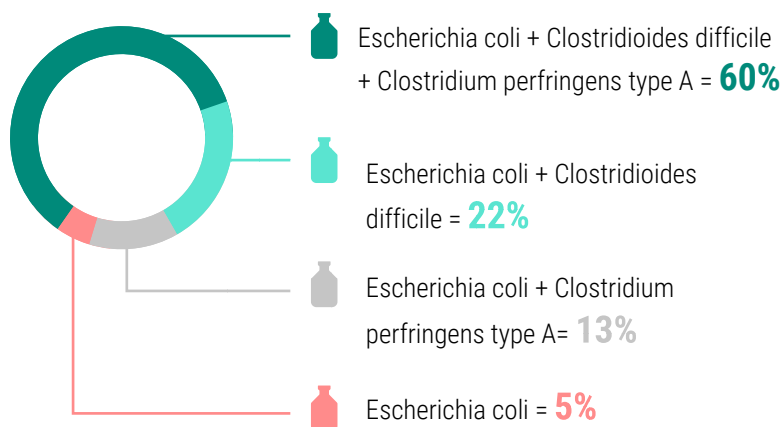
ST123

combining alleles =  
sequence type (ST)

• **statistical results: autovaccines**

## autovaccines produced for neonatal diarrhea in the last 5 years

percentage of autovaccines produced with one or more pathogens



These autovaccines are administered to sows and are complementary to vaccines commercially available. It is appropriate to redesign the autovaccines periodically to adapt them to the new emerging strains.

## autovaccines: *Brachyspira hyodysenteriae*

### sow vaccination



- ↓ infection pressure
- ↓ transmission to piglets

★ highly effective in systems of production in phases

### sow and piglet vaccination



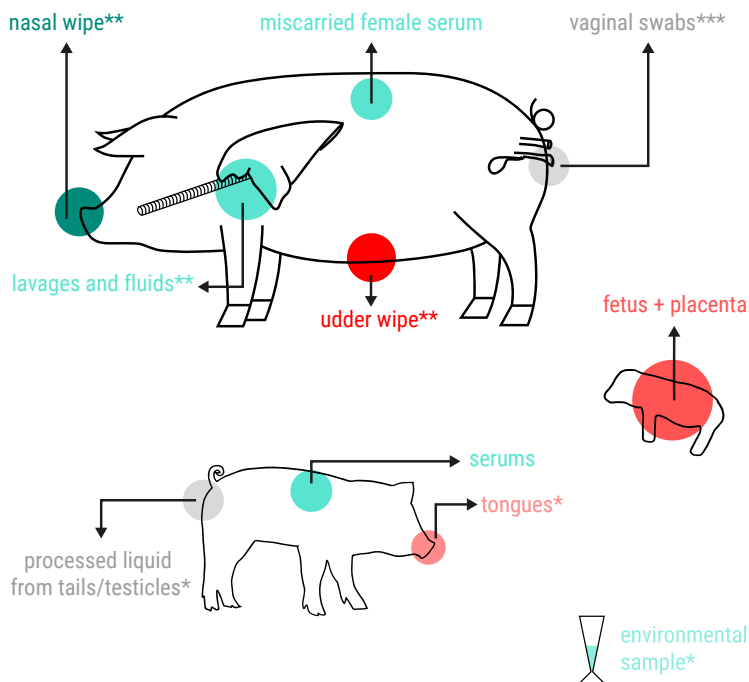
★ necessary in:

- farrow-to-finish holdings
- other production systems e.g. Iberian pig



# ● reproductive processes

## ● sampling



samples for specific diagnosis of: \*PRRS \*\*PRRS and Influenza \*\*\*metritis

## ● diagnostic panels

### Infertility / Metritis:

Microbiology: Bacteria isolation, Antimicrobial susceptibility test

qPCR: Pathogenic *Leptospira*, *Chlamydiaceae* (all species), *Brucella* sp.

### Reproductive:

qPCR: PRRS (EU/NA), Circovirus type 2, Circovirus type 3, Porcine Parvovirus, Pathogenic *Leptospira*, *Chlamydiaceae*, *Brucella* sp.

## Reproductive - Serology:

Serology: Brucella spp. (Rose Bengal test), PRRS (EU/NA), Porcine Parvovirus, Influenza A, Erysipelothrix rhusiopathiae, Circovirus type 2 (IgG and IgM)

## Leptospira sp. - Typing



Leptospirosis can be a **serious reproductive disease** found throughout the world with a considerable economic impact in the pig industry.

Every host has serovars of *Leptospira interrogans*. **Host-adapted serovars usually cause a more insidious disease and not adapted serovars cause acute forms of leptospirosis.**

### • typing of *Leptospira* sp. through sequencing

pathogen involved in **reproductive** diseases

knowing the serovar involved

is essential to treating and controlling the disease

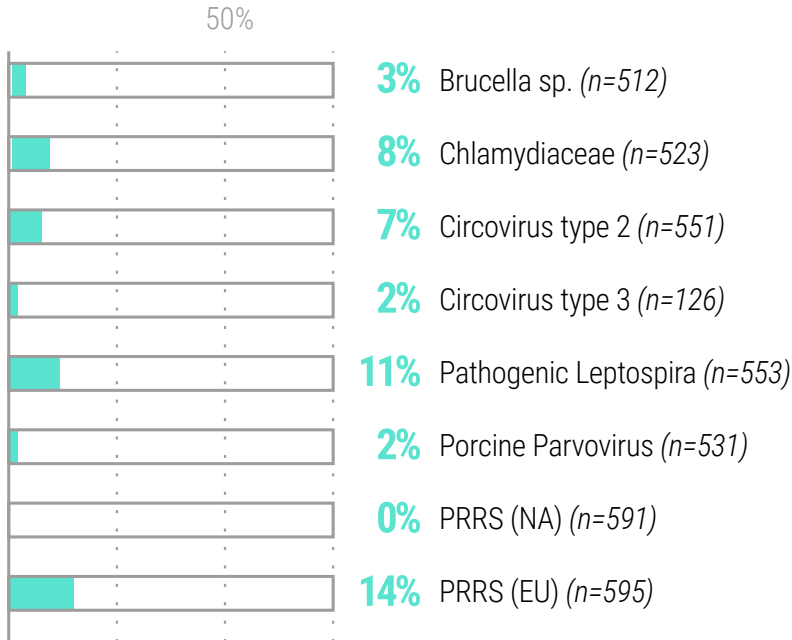
### what does sequence typing add to the process?

- ✓ greater speed
- ✓ automated technique
- ✓ carried out in isolation and in tissues

## ● statistical results: diagnosis pathogens

### pathogens analyzed in reproductive panel

% of positives in the last 5 years



qPCR results on samples collected from **fetuses, placentas, endocervical swabs or serums from weak-born piglets.**

**PRRS** is the most common infectious agent, present in **14% of cases**, followed by pathogenic *Leptospiras* (11%) and *Chlamydiaceae* (8%).

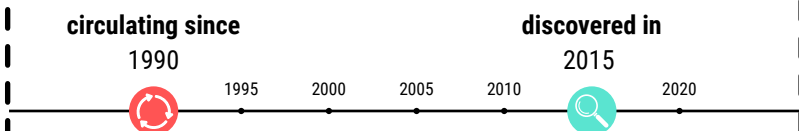
**Influenza A** and **Erysipelothrix rhusiopathiae** do not cross the placental barrier, causing **indirect abortions** due to the female's inflammatory and febrile process. This is the reason this graph does not show the incidence of Influenza A and *Erysipelothrix rhusiopathiae*.



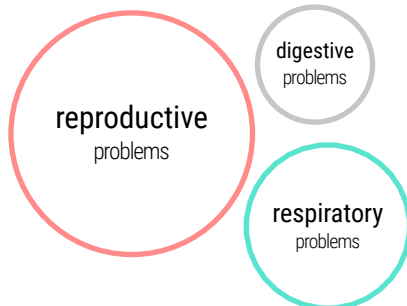
The **Circovirus type 3 (PCV3)** virus was discovered recently, although it has been confirmed that the virus has been circulating at least since the 1990s. It was detected in clinical samples of **reproductive, respiratory, and even digestive diseases**.

Although its role as a causal agent is still under study, there is increasing evidence that it is a **pathogenic agent inducing disorders of the reproductive system**.

## • PCV3 diagnosis



where  
was PCV3  
detected?



Including PCV3 in the **differential diagnosis** of

**reproductive**

and

**respiratory**

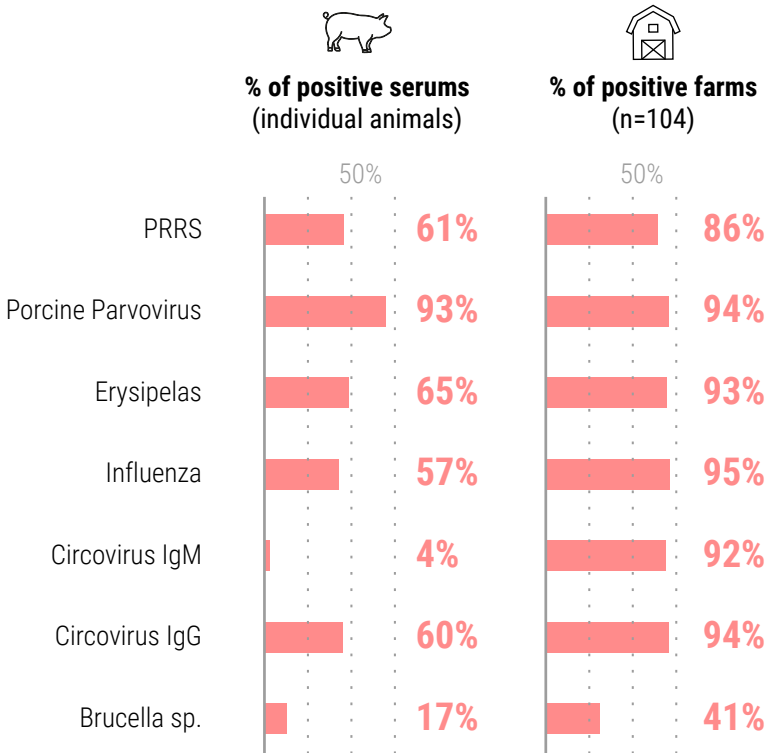
we can assess:

- ✓ **incidence** in clinical cases
- ✓ **concentration** in samples
- ✓ **coexistence** with other pathogenic agents



## pathogens analyzed in serological-reproductive panel

seropositivity at individual and farm level through ELISA techniques



These results should not be taken as prevalence data since they are biased samples of animals with reproductive problems.

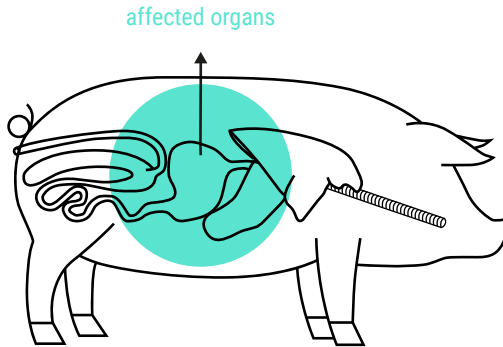
They have been analyzed using the ELISA technique for all diseases except in the case of *Brucella* sp. Rose Bengal Test was carried out in this case. This technique is extremely sensitive but not specific due to its cross-reaction with other bacteria such as *Yersinia enterocolitica* or certain serovars of *E. coli*.

Finally, it should be noted that vaccinated animals will show positive serological results.



# ● septicemia

## ● sampling



## ● diagnostic panels

### Sudden death

qPCR: *Pasteurella multocida* type B, *Salmonella* sp., *Erysipelothrix rhusiopathiae*, *Paenibacillus sordellii*, *Clostridium septicum*, *Clostridium chauvoei*, *Clostridium novyi*, *Clostridium haemolyticum*

### Systemic clostridiosis

qPCR: *Paenibacillus sordellii*, *Clostridium septicum*, *Clostridium chauvoei*, *Clostridium novyi*, *Clostridium haemolyticum*

### *Pasteurella multocida* - Capsular typing

qPCR: capsular types A, B, D, E, F

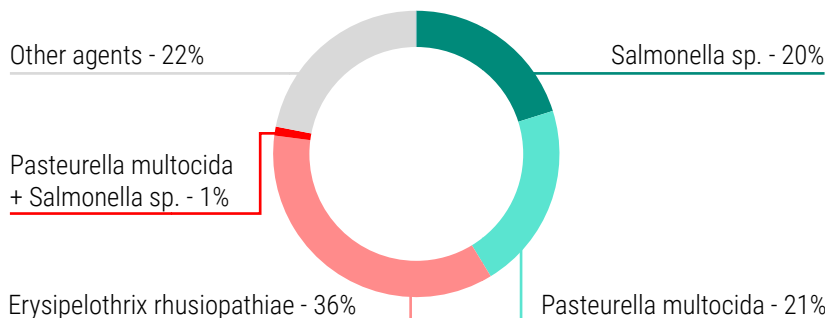
### *Erysipelothrix rhusiopathiae* - Serotyping

qPCR: 1a, 1b, 2, 5

## • statistical results: diagnosis

### isolated bacteria in cases of septicemia

% of positives in the last 5 years



78% of cases of sudden septicemic casualties caused by aerobic bacteria are due to one of the following agents: *E. rhusiopathiae*, *P. multocida* or *Salmonella* sp. Cases of Erysipelas are the most common (mainly in Iberian pigs). These data do not include casualties due to *Clostridium* sp. since these bacteria are not isolated in cultures in aerobiosis.



Serotyping of *Erysipelothrix rhusiopathiae* via qPCR makes characterizing strains, detecting circulating serotypes and designing potential autovaccines possible.

#### • serotyping of *Erysipelothrix rhusiopathiae*

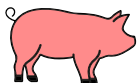
**erysipela**

polyarthritis

septicemia

endocarditis

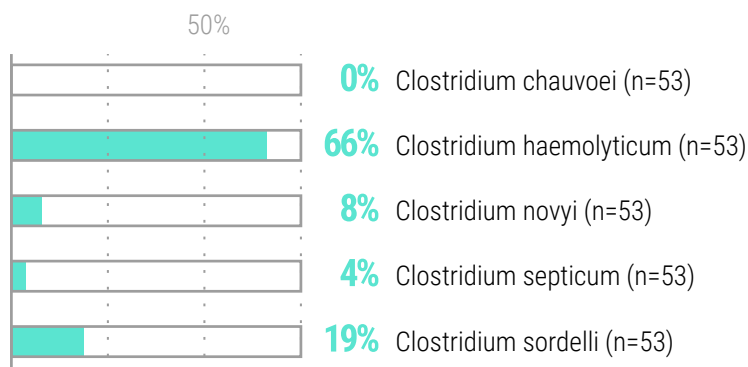
miscarriage



most common serotypes in swine:

· 1A · 1B · 2

## pathogens analyzed in systemic clostridiosis panel via qPCR



In case of sudden deaths, it will also be necessary to carry out a differential diagnosis with Systemic clostridiosis (*C. Sordellii*, *C. septicum*, *C. chauvoei*, *C. novyi*, *C. haemolyticum*) and with *C. perfringens enterotoxemia*.

In cases of septic processes due to *Pasteurella multocida* only type B was detected. No involvement of other capsular types (A, D, E or F) in pigs was found.

*Pasteurella multocida* with capsular types A and D were found to be involved in respiratory processes.

## • autovaccines: *Pasteurella multocida* type B



Vaccination of piglets and sows with autovaccines of *P. multocida* type B is recommended in the absence of vaccines commercially available that include this capsular type in swine.

septicemia caused by *P. multocida* type B, leading to sudden death and neck edema, mainly affects Iberian piglets during the fattening period









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