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TITLE

PCV2D GENOGROUP MIGHT HAVE BECOME DOMINANT IN FRANCE

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CONTENT

A shift in dominant PCV2 genogroups from PCV2a to PCV2b has already taken place worldwide. More recently, the PCV2d genogroup emerged in China and the USA, where it has since become dominant. In France, PCV2 genome typing was not routinely available until recently. It was implemented in 2018 and a retrospective study is underway, and is still including new herds. Farms are eligible when i. The practitioner obtained positive quantitative PCR results with a PCV2 DNA load of at least 107 copies/ml (serum) or g (organs) of samples taken before the implementation of PCV2 vaccination; ii. Vaccination has been performed at weaning for at least six months with either Suvaxyn® PCV or Suvaxyn® Circo + MH RTU and iii. The practitioner has validated that no signs of PCV2-associated disease have been observed in piglets after weaning since the implementation of PCV2 vaccination. In a preliminary stage, seven farms were included in the study, five of which are located in Brittany, and were sampled between 2015 (1 farm) and 2017 (5 farms). In one case, the genogroup could not be determined (probable co-circulation of two strains of different genogroups). In samples of the 2015 farm, PCV2b was found. In all other, more recent cases, PCV2d was identified. PCV2 vaccines, including the whole inactivated recombinant PCV1 virus containing the PCV2 ORF2 protein (chimeric PCV1-2), have proven to be efficacious at preventing clinical signs and viraemia, both following experimental PCV2d challenge and under field conditions. These preliminary results suggest that the PCV2d genogroup might have become dominant in France, without any observable disruption in the vaccine strategies in place on farms.