



HERD HEALTH MANAGEMENT & ECONOMY

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PRODUCTIVITY IMPROVEMENTS FOLLOWING PORCILIS® PCV M HYO VACCINATION

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Introduction

Although the efficacy of a new vaccine is thoroughly proven prior to being marketed, follow-up on efficacy after large-scale use in the field is important. The aim of this Danish historical study was to evaluate the effect of Porcilis® PCV M Hyo during the weaning period.

Material & Methods

Retrospectively, production data like mortality, feed conversion rate (FCR) and average daily gain (ADG) were collected from Danish weaning herds vaccinated with Porcilis® PCV M Hyo. Data from one year prior to initiation of vaccination was compared to data from one year after fully-implemented vaccination. The intermediate period (six months), where the herds contained both vaccinated and non-vaccinated pigs, was omitted from the dataset. Also, herds that experienced severe disease outbreaks with other pathogens or disease clearances (mainly with PRRS) during the study period (2½ years) were excluded.

Results

Twenty Danish herds totally producing 650,000 pigs per year were included in the data set. On average, mortality and FCR decreased by 0.4% ($p=0.01$) and 0.06 feeding units/kg ($p=0.07$), respectively, and ADG increased by 5 g ($p=0.83$). This improved productivity has a value of €0.5. Of the 20 herds, 12 herds previously used another PCV2 vaccine, whereas 8 herds did not previously vaccinate against PCV2. For these two sub-groups, the improvements in productivity corresponded to €0.3 and €1, respectively.

Discussion & Conclusion

The historical study design does not allow for distinguishing the effect of vaccination from the effect of time. Opposed to most parallel studies, however, a historical design allows for the inclusion of a large number of observations, adding power to the study at a different level. The improved productivity following vaccination, coinciding with an unchanged productivity during the same period at a national level, supports an economical benefit of Porcilis® PCV M Hyo already in the weaning period.