



# NO EVIDENCE OF PCV2 INFECTION OF PIGLETS IN 60 DANISH SOW HERDS

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## CONCLUSION

None of the tested piglets from 60 sow was positive for PCV2, strongly indicating that PCV2 in piglets does not possess a major health problem for piglets in Danish sow herds. Further research is needed to investigate if the impaired health of the piglets is related to PCV2 infection of the sows.

## Background

Porcine circovirus type 2 (PCV2) infection in sows can result in reproductive problems in sows and weak newborn piglets. The extent of PCV2 related reproductive problems and impact on the status of suckling piglets has never been investigated in Denmark.

## Objective

To investigate the occurrence of PCV2 in piglets.

## Materials and Methods

Piglets aged 1-21 days sent to SEGES Laboratory for Pig Disease for necropsy were included in the study. Cases including three or more piglets were evaluated pathologically and the iliac and inguinal lymph nodes were collected. The lymph nodes were pooled submission wise and tested for PCV2 by qPCR with a detection level of  $10^3$  copies pr. 500 ng extracted total DNA.

TABLE 1. NUMBER AND AGE OF PIGLETS SENT PER TRANSPORTATION (VARIOUS TRANSPORTATIONS DID NOT INCLUDE THE AGE OF THE PIGLETS)

	MEAN	STD DEVIATION	MIN	MAX
Number of piglets sent per herd*	7.8	13.9	3	91
Age (days)	6.4	6.1	1	21

\* Two herds sent 69 and 91 piglets, respectively. The remaining herds sent less than 30 piglets each.

## Results

501 piglets from 60 herds were included with a minimum of three piglets per herd (table 1). The most common anamnesis from the submitting herds were enteric diseases and unspecific health problems such as increased mortality and decreased thriftiness of piglets (figure 1). The anamneses given could not be related to the PCV2 status of the piglet, as none of the lymph node pools were positive for PCV2.

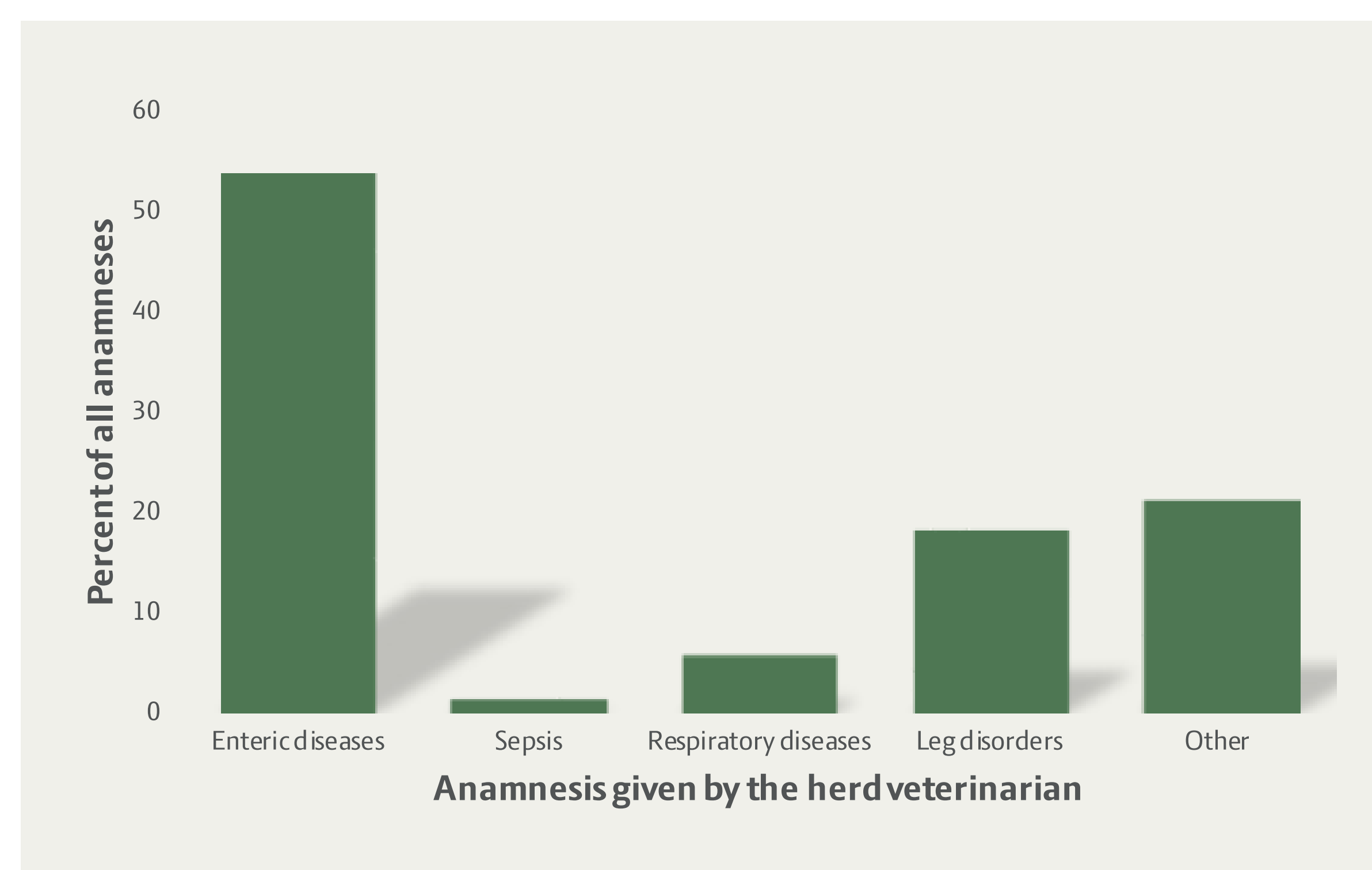


FIGURE 1. THE DISTRIBUTION OF ANAMNESES GIVEN BY THE HERD VETERINARIAN FOR THE HERD SENDING PIGLETS TO NECROPSY AT SEGES LABORATORY FOR PIG DISEASES. MORE THAN ONE ANAMNESIS CAN BE GIVEN TO EACH HERD.



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