



THE USE OF PCV2 VACCINES IN 60 DANISH HERDS

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CONCLUSION

Relatively few herds used PCV2 vaccines for adult animals, meaning that PCV2 is apparently not considered a problem in this groups of animals in Danish pig herds. Two-thirds of the herds vaccinated piglets. However, if the piglets should be protected by PCV2 antibodies from birth, it is crucial that they receive maternal antibodies through the colostrum.

Background

Porcine circovirus type 2 (PCV2) is an essential factor for developing Post weaning Multisystemic Wasting Syndrome (PMWS) in weaned piglets. Not all cases of PCV2 infections develop into PMWS, and in sows, PCV2 may cause reproductive failure and weak newborn piglets. After 2004 PCV2-vaccines have been developed and now PMWS is practically non-existing in Danish herds. However, PCV2 is expected to be present in most of the Danish herds today. Vaccination could therefore be important to prevent PVC2 related problems in the herds.

Objective

To investigate the vaccination strategies for PCV2 in 60 Danish sow herds.

Materials and Methods

60 herds, with 39 different veterinarians affiliated, were included in the study (table 1). The herd veterinarian was asked to answer a questionnaire concerning which group of animals the given herd vaccinated and the time of vaccination. The animals were divided into groups of piglets, gilts, sows, and boars.

TABLE 1. DISTRIBUTION OF THE NUMBER OF ANIMALS IN THE INCLUDED HERDS DIVIDED BY ADULT ANIMALS AND PIGLETS (source: www.chr.fvst.dk)

	MEAN	STD DEVIATION	MIN	MAX
Sows, gilts and boars	984	508	200	2,650
Piglets post-weaning (7-30 kg)	2,458	4,012	0	23,000

Results

The distribution of vaccination of the different animal groups are showed in figure 1. Eleven (18%) herds refrained to vaccinate any animals. Piglets were mostly vaccinated at 3-4 weeks of age and gilts were vaccinated from the age of 15 weeks to 30 weeks, presumably before first service. The four herds which vaccinated sows all vaccinated them 3 weeks pre-farrowing. Boars (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.

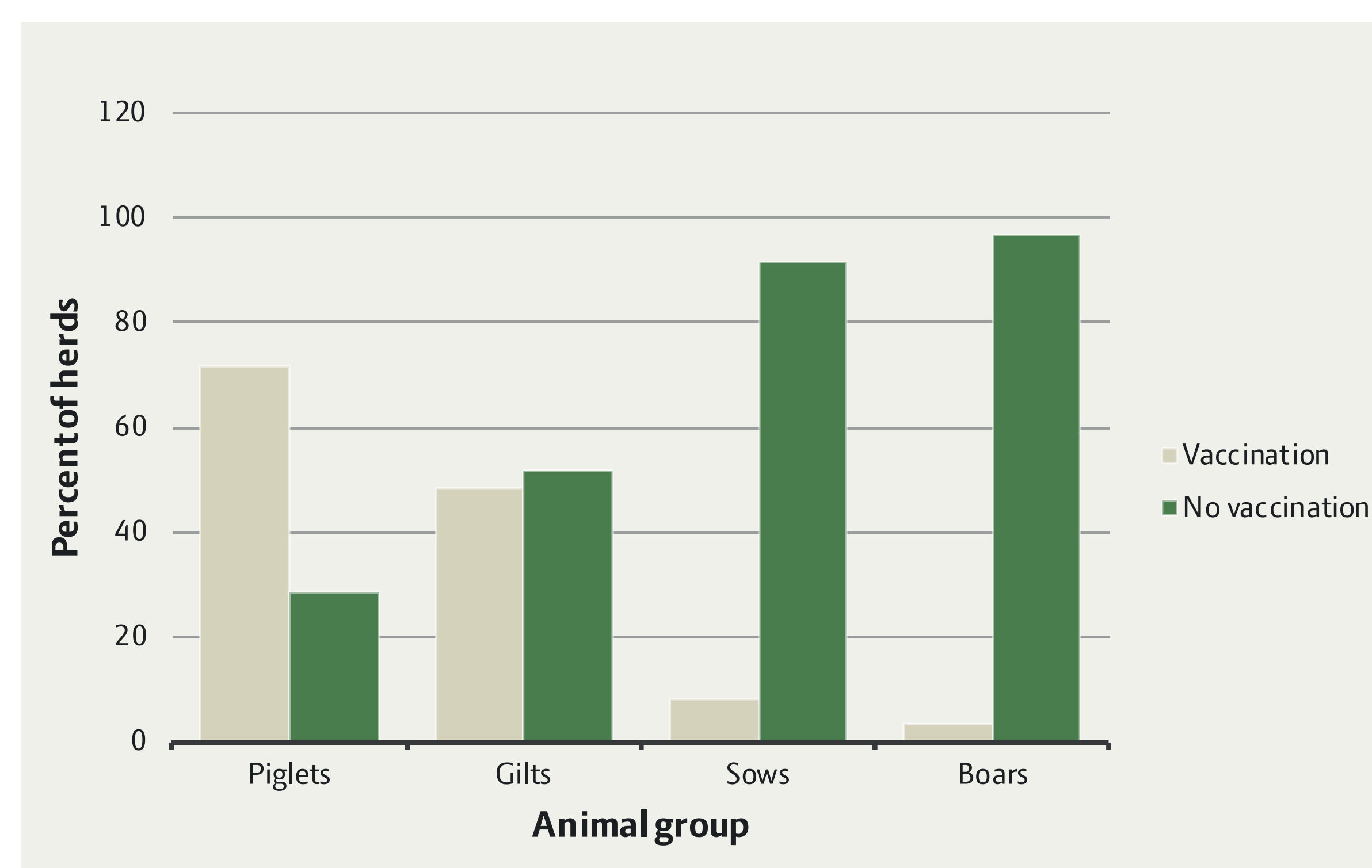


FIGURE 1. THE DISTRIBUTION OF VACCINATION OF PIGLETS, GILTS, SOWS, AND BOARS. ONE HERD CAN BE REPRESENTED IN MORE THAN ONE GROUP.



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