The Case for PCV2 Cross Protection

Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica, Inc. continues to test Ingelvac CircoFLEX® to ensure protection against new strains of PCV2.

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Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica, Inc. (BIVI) recently conducted a widespread field trial on 48 farms to determine if Ingelvac CircoFLEX® is providing protection to pigs exposed to modern strains of Porcine Circovirus Type 2 (PCV2), including PCV2d.

“Mutations in PCV2 do occur, and virus evolution is inevitable,” says Dr. Eduardo Fano, DVM, technical manager for BIVI. “We continuously track and monitor each new strain that is discovered and ensure vaccination continues to protect the animals.

“In the latest field trial, we were able to conclude that pigs vaccinated with Ingelvac CircoFLEX showed no clinical signs of porcine circovirus associated disease (PCVAD) and met the system’s performance expectations, per the herd veterinarian,” Dr. Fano adds. “It had been determined that these pigs were exposed to a wide range of modern PCV2 strains, including the newest strain, PCV2d.”

The field trial focused on 48 farms in Iowa, North Carolina, Minnesota, Illinois and Ohio that met the following criteria:

- The pigs were vaccinated with Ingelvac CircoFLEX at weaning age.
- Both the owner and veterinarian were satisfied with the vaccine.
- Pig performance was meeting expectations.
- No clinical health issues suggestive of PCVAD were present.¹
The pigs were tested for PCV2 and the strains were all categorized. Study results showed that 27 of the 48 farms were positive for PCV2 via PCR testing. However, the pigs vaccinated with Ingelvac CircoFLEX showed no clinical signs of PCVAD and met performance expectations despite being exposed to PCV2a, PCV2b and PCV2d virus strains.

Consider All Factors
If your pigs do show a spike in clinical signs for PCV2, Dr. Fano recommends working with your veterinarian to conduct a root cause analysis. This should include a discussion of key factors that could impact complete protection, including:

- Administration of lower-than-directed vaccine dosage
- Improper vaccine timing
• Piglet health status at preferred time of vaccination
• Co-infections
• Sow herd stability

“There are many reasons that PCV2 clinical signs could appear, even when pigs are vaccinated. That's why it's important to evaluate factors like appropriate dose of vaccine administered, vaccination timing and pig health status to determine what the actual, or root, cause of the clinical signs is,” Dr. Fano says.

For more information on Ingelvac CircoFLEX and other BIVI swine vaccines, ask your veterinarian, call BIVI at (800) 325-9167 or visit www.bi-vetmedica.com/swine.

References:

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Boehringer Ingelheim

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