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Authors: Kerstin Wernike, Claudia Wylezich, Dirk Höper, Julia Schneider, Peter W.W. Lurz, Anna Meredith, Elspeth Milne, Martin Beer, Rainer G. Ulrich



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Widespread occurrence of Squirrel adenovirus 1 in red and grey squirrels in Scotland detected by a novel real-time PCR assay

Kerstin Wernike^{a,*}, Claudia Wylezich^a, Dirk Höper^a, Julia Schneider^{b,d}, Peter W.W. Lurz^c, Anna Meredith^{c,e}, Elspeth Milne^c, Martin Beer^a, Rainer G. Ulrich^b

^a Institute of Diagnostic Virology, Friedrich-Loeffler-Institut, Südufer 10, 17493, Greifswald-Insel Riems, Germany;

^b Institute of Novel and Emerging Infectious Diseases, Friedrich-Loeffler-Institut, Südufer 10, 17493, Greifswald-Insel Riems, Germany;

^c Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies and The Roslin Institute, The University of Edinburgh, Easter Bush Campus, Roslin, Midlothian, EH25 9RG, UK;

^d Present affiliation: NMI TT Pharmservices, c/o CoLaborator, Müllerstraße 178, 13353 Berlin, Germany

^e Present affiliation: Melbourne Veterinary School, The University of Melbourne, Royal Parade Parkville 3010, Melbourne, Australia

E-Mail addresses: kerstin.wernike@fli.de; claudia.wylezich@fli.de; dirk.hoeper@fli.de; julia.schneider816@gmail.com; v1plurz2@staffmail.ed.ac.uk; Anna.Meredith@unimelb.edu.au; Elspeth.Milne@ed.ac.uk; martin.beer@fli.de; rainer.ulrich@fli.de

*** Corresponding author:** Phone: +49 38351 7-1212, Fax: +49 38351 7-1193,

E-mail: kerstin.wernike@fli.de

Highlights

- - A real-time PCR to detect squirrel-associated adenovirus 1 (SqAdV-1) was established
- - SqAdV-1 genomic DNA was detected in red and grey squirrels
- - High viral genome loads were detected in intestine and liver samples of red squirrels
- - The complete genome sequence of a SqAdV-1 strain from Scotland was determined
- - SqAdV-1 genomes in red squirrels from Scotland and Germany are almost identical

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