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# Purified natural pig immunoglobulins can substitute dietary zinc in reducing piglet post weaning diarrhoea

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## Abstract

Enteric infectious disease in weaner piglets, including postweaning diarrhoea (PWD), are usually treated and/or prevented with antibiotics and/or zinc oxide in the piglet feed. However extensive use of antibiotics and zinc oxide in intensive animal production is unwanted as it may promote microbial antibiotic resistance and pose environmental problems. Recently, in an experimental model of PWD, we observed that oral administration of purified porcine immunoglobulin G (pplgG) from pooled natural pig plasma could reduce enteric infection. In the present study we were able to reproduce these results as it was observed that oral pplgG accelerated clearance of faecal haemolytic bacteria in pigs challenged with *E. coli* in comparison with pigs not receiving pplgG. This effect was observed upon feeding pplgG for seven days postweaning suggesting that

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