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Congenital tremor in piglets: is bovine viral diarrhea virus an etiological cause?

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Highlights

- Gilts oronasally infected with BVDV-2 during gestation did not develop any clinical signs and reproductive disorders, and piglets were born BVDV-2 free.
- Fetuses infected with BVDV-2 on 45th day of gestation by intrauterine inoculation are able to develop high antibody titers against BVDV-2 compared with the gilts immune response against the experimental infection.
- Transplacental infection was not evidenced in piglets born from gilts oronasally infected.
- BVDV-2 was not able to promote lesions in the central nervous system of the infected piglets, and congenital tremor was not observed in this study.

Abstract

Congenital tremor in pigs involves several etiologies, including pestivirus, which may cause neurological injuries in different animal species. To evaluate whether bovine viral diarrhea virus (BVDV), an important pestivirus, is one of the etiological agents of congenital tremor in swine, gilts and the fetuses were challenged at 45 days of gestation with BVDV-2. Four pregnant gilts were inoculated oronasally, four gilts underwent fetal intrauterine inoculation, and two gilts constituted the

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