

Infektionserreger mit Einfluss auf die Darmgesundheit

- Pathogens influencing gut health -

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Gut – mucosal surface

- gut as the entrance gate for various microorganisms which target other organs
- number of pathogens which reside within the gut is limited

Pathogens

- Impact on gut tissue**
 - Inflammation – Motility – Physiology – Absorption – Growth – Health and Performance
- Specificity**
 - for poultry species (chicken – turkey - waterfowl)
 - for certain age or production phases (layer – breeder – broiler)

Eimeria spp.

- intracellular protozoan parasites
- high importance in all poultry species and production phases
- initial research by Tyzzer and Johnson in the 1920s and 1930s
- 1971 introduction of monensin, an ionophore, as coccidiostat in the market
- 1980s precocious lines as basis for vaccines
- 1990s vaccines introduced into the market, containing 3-8 Eimeria species
- last decade: molecular characterization and functional aspects of certain proteins

Chapmann et al. (2010), Poultry Sci., 89, 1788-1801

Jeffers (1975), J.Parasitol., 61, 1083-1090

Coccidiosis

Eimeria: vaccination

Vaccine	Coccidiath-B	Coccidiath-B	Coccidiath-B	Coccidiath-B	Paracox	Paracox	Paracox	Paracox	Hydromax
Total type	Field	Field	Field	Field	Field	Field	Field	Field	Field
Age at vaccination	1 day old	1 day old	1 day old	1 day old	7 days old	8 days old	8 days old	8 days old	8 days old
Substratum	Hardwood shavings	Hardwood shavings	Hardwood shavings	Hardwood shavings	Hardwood shavings	Hardwood shavings	Hardwood shavings	Hardwood shavings	Hardwood shavings
Origin of broilers	Vaccinated/Field	Vaccinated/Field	Vaccinated/Field	Vaccinated/Field	Vaccinated	Vaccinated	Vaccinated	Vaccinated	Vaccinated
Days post-vaccination	14-28	13-19	14-28	14-28	28-40	14-21	14-21	14-21	14-21
Percentage of birds	75	7	7	7	4	24	10	10	10
Lesion severity	0-2	0	0	0	0-2	0-2	0-2	0-2	0-2
Species ^a	Eu. Fimus, Eim. Eu. F1	Eu. F1	Eu. F1	Eu. F1	Eim. F1	Eim. Fimus, E1	Eim. Fimus, E1	Eim. Fimus, E1	Eim. Fimus, E1

^a Abbreviations: Eu. Fimus, Eim. Fimus; Eu. F1, Eimeria F1; E1, Eimeria F1; Eim. Fimus, E1, Eimeria Fimus and Eimeria F1.

Williams (2002), Avian Pathol., 31, 317-353

Sharma et al. (2010), Parasit. Immunol., 32, 590-598

Sathish et al. (2012), Vaccine, 30, 4460-4464

Coccidiosis – (alternative) strategies

Protective effects of Aloe vera-based diets in Eimeria maxima-infected broiler chickens
 Hengran Yin^{1*}, Sang S. Kang², Dong W. Kim³, Sang H. Kim³, Hyun S. Lilleberg⁴, Wengui Min^{1*}
1. College of Veterinary Medicine, Seoul National University, Seoul 151-747, Korea; 2. School of Veterinary Medicine, Chungnam National University, Daejeon 305-390, Korea; 3. School of Veterinary Medicine, Seoul National University, Seoul 151-747, Korea; 4. Department of Poultry Science, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Arkansas, USA

Improved resistance to Eimeria acervulina infection in chickens due to dietary supplementation with garlic metabolites
 Duk Kyung Kim, Hyun S. Lilleberg, Sung Hyun Lee, Suk P. Lilleberg and David Davis
British Journal of Poultry Science, (2012), pp. 1-12

Coccidiosis Immunization: Effects of Mushroom and Herb Polysaccharides on Immune Responses of Chickens Infected with Eimeria tenella
 F. C. Cao^{1*}, R. P. Kozak², R. A. Williams², X. Sun², W. K. Li² and M. W. A. Young^{2*}
1. Department of Poultry Science, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Arkansas, USA; 2. Department of Poultry Science, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Arkansas, USA

Assessment of dietary supplementation with probiotics on performance, intestinal morphology and microflora of chickens infected with Eimeria tenella
 I. Giamberini^{1*}, E. Papadopoulos¹, E. Tsilika¹, E. Tsarouchidou¹, S. Henikis¹, K. Tschirren², D. Tosti^{2*}
1. Department of Poultry Science, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Arkansas, USA; 2. Department of Poultry Science, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Arkansas, USA

Enhanced Mucosal Immunity Against Eimeria acervulina in Broilers Fed a Lactobacillus-Based Probiotic¹
 R. A. Dindal¹, H. S. Lilleberg¹, T. A. Shelton² and J. A. Doser²
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Necrotic enteritis (NE)

- Clostridium perfringens* type A, widely distributed in the environment
- toxins as main virulence factors: alpha and NetB
- a single genetic strain during outbreaks
- risc components in the feed: texture, high energy, protein-rich, wheat, fishmeal, fat component
- immunosuppression and stress promote NE

NE: pathogenesis and prevention

Table 4. Numbers of birds examined for the presence of NE, per broiler per week.

Week	Site 1				Site 2			
	Week 30	Week 33	Week 43	Week 22	Week 27	Week 32	Week 37	Week 42
	batch	batch	batch	batch	batch	batch	batch	batch
Week	C	V	C	V	C	V	C	V
1	31	34	26	36	18	11	22	29
2	19	4	28	29	14	4	13	16
3	7	4	5	5	1	4	14	22
4	1	1	1	1	3	3	3	3
5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
6	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1
7	0	0	1	2	4	3	12	13
8	0	0	3	3	2	1	1	1

V, vaccinated; C, control. Bold text denotes when specific lesions were observed. *48 birds examined on day 26 were diagnosed as having NE (mean lesion score = 1.5). *21 birds examined on day 25 (mean lesion score = 1.15) and 1112 birds examined on day 28 (mean lesion score = 0.92) were diagnosed as having NE. *212 birds examined on day 25 (mean lesion score = 1.38) and 679 birds examined on day 28 (mean lesion score = 0.7) were diagnosed as having NE.

Timbermont et al. (2011), Avian Pathol., 40, 341-347

Crouch et al. (2010), Avian Pathol., 39, 489-497

Histomonosis in layers: typhlo(-hepatitis)

Experimental histomonosis in chickens


Zahoor et al. (2011), Avian Dis., 55, 29-34

Experimental histomonosis in layers

* significant difference between control and challenged group (P<0.05).
 # significant difference between vaccinated+challenged and only challenged group (P<0.05).

Avian intestinal spirochetosis

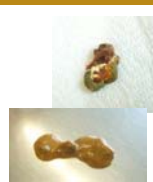
- *B. intermedia*, *B. pilosicoli*, *B. hyodysenteriae*, *B. alvinipulli*, in poultry often mixed infections
- important in layers and breeders
- *B. alvinipulli* in in geese with fibrinonecrotic typhlitis (Nemes et al., Avian Pathol., 2006, 35, 4-11)
- preference for alternative housing systems
- vaccination with inactivated bacterin not successful (Amin et al., Vet. Microbiol. 2009, 133, 372-376)
- good susceptibility to antibiotics in a population with low level exposure to antibiotics (Jansson et al., Avian Pathol., 2011, 40, 387-393)



Shivaprasad & Duhamel (2005), Avian Dis., 49, 609-613

Runting-stunting syndrome (RSS)


- **Definition or synonyms**
 - infectious runting and stunting syndrome
 - pale bird syndrome
 - malabsorption syndrome
 - helicopter disease
 - poult enteritis complex (PEC)
 - poult enteritis and mortality syndrome (PEMS)
- **different nomenclature indicates a less well defined aetiology or multifactorial character of the syndrome**



Runting – Stunting (RSS)

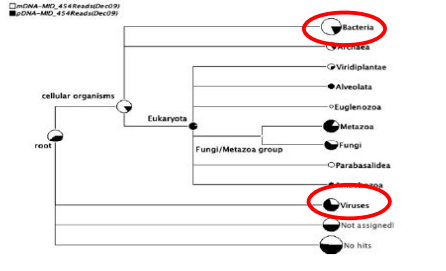


Consequences of RSS



Aetiology of RSS: Metagenome analysis

RSS-infiziert ● versus nicht-infiziert ○



Kim & Mundt, Methods Mol Biol. (2011), 733, 185-194

Aetiology of RSS

Bacteria-free intestinal and pancreatic homogenates from chickens of different ages, taken from flocks which developed RSS, regularly induced a lower mean live-weight in treated birds. Of these, only intestinal homogenates prepared from 5-day-old birds induced intestinal lesions, lowered mean live-weight and increased the incidence of both elevated plasma amylase activity and pancreatic atrophy. These changes were more marked in birds exposed to short periods of sub-optimal temperatures during the first week post-inoculation. An ultracentrifuged pellet prepared from this intestinal homogenate, was also found to induce an increased incidence of pancreatic atrophy in treated birds. These studies suggest that the causative agent(s) of RSS is an as yet unidentified virus, and that the effects of this infection are greater in birds subjected to stress, such as sub-optimal temperature exposure, within the first week of hatch.

Smart et al., Avian Pathol. (1988), 17, 617-627

Table 1. Bacteria isolated from ground sections of broiler chicks experiencing a runting/stunting-type syndrome		
Aerobes	Green positive	<i>Stenomonas faecalis</i> (5 387 1510) ^a
		<i>Stenomonas faecalis</i> (7 157 1585)
		<i>Streptococcus salivarius</i> ^b
		<i>Shigella dysenteriae</i> ^b
		<i>Escherichia coli</i> (5 144 512)
Green negative		<i>Escherichia coli</i> (5 084 502)
		<i>Escherichia coli</i> (5 044 512)
		<i>Escherichia coli</i> (5 144 512)
		<i>Escherichia coli</i> (5 044 512)
		<i>Escherichia coli</i> (5 144 512)
Anaerobes	Green positive	<i>Proteus mirabilis</i> (5 712 100)
	Green negative	<i>Chlamydia proteus</i> ^b
		<i>Haemophilus agilis</i> ^b

^aNumber in parentheses an accession derived from GenBank identification systems. ^b = API 20 Strip (bioMérieux Vitek, Inc.), ^c = API 20E (bioMérieux Vitek, Inc.).
^d Identified by NYSU.

Montgomery et al., Avian Dis. (1997), 41, 399-406

Viral aetiology of RSS

- Astrovirus**
 - Turkeys: T_AStV-I and T_AStV-2
 - Chickens: C_AStV and Avian Nephritis Virus (ANV1,2,3)
 - Ducks: D_AStV-I and D_AStV-2
 - Guinea Fowl (GF_AStV)
- Parvovirus**
 - Turkeys: (TuPV)
 - Chicken: (ChPV)
- Rotavirus**
 - AvRV-A and -D, -F and -G
- Coronavirus**
 - TCoV
- Adenovirus
- Reovirus
- Enterovirus

Rotaviruses: natural infection



Fig. 3. Intestinal epithelium with rotavirus particles in the villi of the small intestine of a 1-day-old turkey. The virus is visible in the cytoplasm of the cells and in the lumen of the villi.

Otto et al., Avian Dis. (2006) 50, 411-418

Table 4. Correlation between wing edema severity and detection of RV group in the intestinal caecum.

Group	Chick No.	Wing edema severity	Detection of RV by different methods						
			RT-PCR	PCR	EMSA	EMSA	EMSA	EMSA	
A	1	1	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	2	1	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	3	1	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	4	1	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
B	5	2	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	6	2	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	7	2	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	8	2	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
C	9	3	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	10	3	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	11	3	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	12	3	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
D	13	3	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	14	3	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	15	3	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	16	3	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
E	17	4	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	18	4	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	19	4	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	20	4	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
F	21	4	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	22	4	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	23	4	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	24	4	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
G	25	4	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	26	4	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	27	4	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	28	4	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
H	29	5	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	30	5	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	31	5	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	32	5	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
I	33	5	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	34	5	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	35	5	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	36	5	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
J	37	5	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	38	5	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	39	5	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	40	5	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
K	41	5	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	42	5	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	43	5	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
	44	5	+	+	+	+	+	+	+

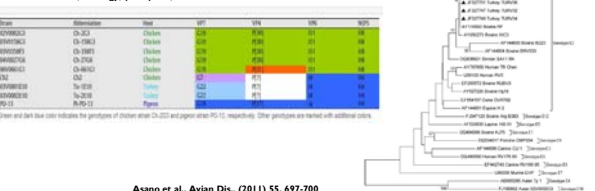
¹ Detection: ++ denotes detection; (+) = positive by nested PCR only; (+) = presence of rotavirus RNA; (-) = presence of rotavirus RNA; (-) = no rotavirus RNA detected.
² ++ = present/detected; + = present/detected; (-) = not present/detected.

Epidemiology of Rotaviruses

Serial No.	Year	Country	Host	Age	Number of animals	Number of birds	Clinical signs	% Positive for AvRV-A	% Positive for AvRV-D	% Positive for AvRV-G
12	2000	Hungary	Chicken	0-14 days	41	2	RS, DS	24.3	17.1	14.6
13	2000	Germany	Chicken	10 days	242	12	RS, DS	63.7	18.6	52.1
14	2000	Germany	Chicken	10 days	18	2	None	5.0	48.0	8.0
15	2000	Hungary	Chicken	0-14 days	38	1	RS, DS	76.7	5.1	5.1
16	2000	Germany	Turkey	0-14 weeks	14	4	Diarrhea	64.3	7.1	7.1
17	2000	Germany	Chicken	0-14 days	7	4	RS, DS	68.0	14.3	14.3
18	2000	Netherlands	Chicken	0-14 days	44	7	RS, Diarrhea	72.8	61.3	96.7
19	2000	Netherlands	Turkey	4 weeks	4	2	Diarrhea	50.0	50.0	50.0
Total					303	38		58.8	63.9	58.9

Otto et al. (2012), Vet. Microbiol., 156, 8-15

Schumann et al., Virology, (2009) 386, 334-343



Asano et al., Avian Dis., (2011) 55, 697-700

RSS: Parvovirus

Table 1. Mean body weight (g) of broilers infected orally with chicken parvovirus strain ABU at 1 day of age.

Age in days	Uninfected		Infected		Retention in growth (%)
	Weight	Growth rate	Weight	Growth rate	
1	34.1	--	34.1	--	0
7	84.1	2.46	80.1	2.34	4.77
14	204.5	2.43	185.1	2.31	9.50
21	398.0	1.94	298.7	1.61	24.96
28	556.0	1.47	569.1	1.23	37.02

Kisary (1985), Avian Pathol., 14, 1-7



Table 3. Weight gain and growth retardation after oral inoculation of 1-day-old chicks with parvovirus.

Experiment group	Chickens (n)	Weight gain		
		1-8 days	8-13 days	13-21 days
Parvovirus*	79 broilers	mean (s.e.) 93.4 (0.87)	230.8 (8.2)	267 (10)
Control	79 broilers	mean (s.e.) 138.20 (2.5)	221.5 (8)	262 (10)
Parvovirus*	79 broilers	mean (s.e.) 91.14 (1.07)	213.2 (10)	262 (10)
Control	79 broilers	mean (s.e.) 92.42 (1.07)	213.2 (10)	262 (10)
Parvovirus*	15 SP* mean (s.e.) 37.6 (1.1)	37.6 (1.1)	37.6 (1.1)	37.6 (1.1)
Control	14 SP* mean (s.e.) 37.6 (1.1)	37.6 (1.1)	37.6 (1.1)	37.6 (1.1)

Decaesstecker et al. (1986), Avian Pathol., 15, 769-782

Parvoviruses in Hungarian poultry flocks

Year	Month	County	Host	Age	Number of animals	Number of birds	Clinical signs	% Positive for Parvovirus
2000	12	Hungary	Chicken	0-14 days	41	2	RS, DS	24.3
2000	12	Hungary	Chicken	10 days	242	12	RS, DS	63.7
2000	12	Hungary	Chicken	10 days	18	2	None	5.0
2000	12	Hungary	Chicken	0-14 days	38	1	RS, DS	76.7
2000	12	Hungary	Turkey	0-14 weeks	14	4	Diarrhea	64.3
2000	12	Hungary	Chicken	0-14 days	7	4	RS, DS	68.0
2000	12	Hungary	Chicken	0-14 days	44	7	RS, Diarrhea	72.8
2000	12	Hungary	Turkey	4 weeks	4	2	Diarrhea	50.0
Total					303	38		58.8

Palade et al., Avian Dis., (2011) 55, 468-475

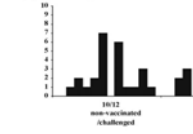
Palade et al., Avian Pathol., (2011) 40, 191-197

Astrovirus: functional aspects - prevention

Values are mean ± SE. jejunal tissue was stripped of serosal layer (A) or not (B) before mounting on Using chambers. Na ⁺ and Cl ⁻ fluxes (J) and short-circuit current (J _{sc}) are given in pmol/s and tissue conductance (G) is given in mS/cm ² . J _{Na} , J _{Cl} , J _{sc} , I _{sc} , J _{Na} and J _{Cl} = basal value; J _{Na} and J _{Cl} = fluxes across unstripped jejunum of control and TAVV-2-infected chicks.	Na ⁺ flux			Cl ⁻ flux		
	J _{Na}	J _{Na}	J _{Na}	J _{Cl}	J _{Cl}	J _{Cl}
	(A) Unstripped Na ⁺ and Cl ⁻ fluxes across stripped jejunum of control and TAVV-2-infected chicks					
Control	4.53 ± 0.31	3.58 ± 0.38	0.96 ± 0.38	2.07 ± 0.22	3.23 ± 0.38	-0.56 ± 0.60
TAVV-2	3.03 ± 0.36*	4.13 ± 0.42	-2.10 ± 0.47*	2.70 ± 0.40	2.26 ± 0.39	0.44 ± 0.37
(B) Unstripped Na ⁺ and Cl ⁻ fluxes across intact jejunum of control and TAVV-2-infected chicks						
Control	4.36 ± 0.48	3.80 ± 0.29	0.57 ± 0.53	1.72 ± 0.44	2.14 ± 0.38	-0.42 ± 0.21
TAVV-2	2.91 ± 0.22*	4.04 ± 0.41	-1.13 ± 0.54*	2.54 ± 0.41	1.88 ± 0.54	0.86 ± 0.44

* P < 0.05 infected vs. control tissues (p < 0.05)

Night et al. (2010), Virology, 401, 146-154



Sellers et al. (2010), Vaccine, 28, 1253-1263

RSS:Aetiology???

Table 2. Enteric virus detection in commercial chicken and turkey flocks by age.

Age (wk-days)	Anthonomus	Coronavirus	Rotavirus	Reovirus
Chickens				
Hatch to 1-0	12/14*	12/14	8/14	10/14
1-1 to 2-0	22/24	16/24	9/24	14/24
2-1 to 3-0	0/8	1/1	1/1	1/1
Unknown	2/2	2/2	2/2	2/2
Turkeys				
Hatch to 1-0	2/2	0/2	1/2	0/2
1-1 to 2-0	21/21	0/21	18/21	0/21
2-1 to 3-0	4/4	0/4	1/4	4/4
3-1 to 4-0	3/3	0/3	2/3	2/3
4-1 to 5-0	7/8*	7/8	N/A	N/A
5-1 to 6-0	1/1	0/1	0/1	1/1
Unknown	2/2	0/2	2/2	0/2

*Number positive/nested.
 *Data = not applicable, no flocks in this age range were included.

Pantin-Jackwood et al. (2008), Avian Dis., 52, 235-244

Table 2. Distribution and severity of histological lesions in poult inoculated with turkey anthonomus type-2 (TAaV-2), turkey rotavirus (TRoV), or turkey reovirus (TRoV) and all combinations at 4 days postinoculation.

	TRoV	TRoV + TAaV-2	TAaV-2	TRoV + Reo	Reo	TAaV-2 + Reo	TRoV + Reo + TAaV-2
Duodenum	+	+	-	+	-	+	+
Ileum	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Ileum	+	+	-	+	-	+	+
Bursa	+	+	++	+	++	++	+++

*Microscopic lesions: - = no or sporadic lesions; +/- = minimal; + = mild; ++ = moderate; +++ = severe.

Spackman et al. (2010), Avian Dis., 54, 16-21

Digestive tract: proventriculus and gizzard

INFECTIOUS PROVENTRICULITIS CAUSING RUNTING IN BROILERS

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Kouwenvoorn et al. (1978), Avian Pathol., 7, 183-187

Gizzard Erosion (GE)

Ono et al., Vet. Rec., (2003), 153, 775-779

Gizzard Erosion (GE): field data

Graff et al. (2012), Avian Pathol., in press

Summary

- various pathogens infect birds via the gut
- from all type of organisms – protozoa, bacteria and viruses – some specifically target the digestive tract
- coccidiosis is the most important disease of bird's gut
- in recent years PCR technology helped to elucidate the aetiology of RSS; however there is a need for functional studies
- various diseases with multifactorial aetiology
- new diseases of the digestive tract (e.g. GE) underline the need for precise diagnostics
- a wide range of plant substances are discussed to improve gut integrity
- efforts to combat gut diseases via vaccination have increased in recent years but numerous problems remain

Thanks!

Staff and co-workers!
Veterinarians and Co-operation partners!

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