Emerging Disease of Arthritis due to Novel Reoviruses in Broiler Chickens in California

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CAHFS Works in Partnership With

- **1.** California Department of Food and Agriculture
- **2.** School of Veterinary Medicine
- **3.** Livestock and Poultry Producers
- **4.** Veterinarians
- **5.** United States Department
- of Agriculture (USDA)





CAHFS' Mission

- **1.** Surveillance and response for Foreign Animal Diseases
- 2. Livestock and poultry disease control
- **3.** Enhancement of livestock and poultry health
- 4. Ensuring the safety of foods of animal origin
- **5.** Protection from animal diseases that can affect people (Zoonosis)
- **6.** Equine health and performance
- 7. Recognition and dissemination of new knowledge









Each of four la populations loo	boratories cated within	offer services the immedia	to match the te vicinity of	needs of the that laborate	ne animal ory
	Davis	Turlock		Tulare	San Bernardino
Bacteriology	Í	j		đ	j
Immunology	1	ſ			1
Biotechnology	1	Í		j	
Path/Histo	Í	Ĵ		Í	1
ЕМ	1				
Toxicology	1				
Avian Virology	a				









Tests Essential for Disease Diagnosis

- History
- Clinical signs
- Necropsy (autopsy)
- Serology (ELISA, HA/HI, AGID, etc.)
- Immunology (FA, IHC, etc.)
- Biotechnology
- Bacteriology/Mycology

Tests (Contd.)

 ✓ Histopathology/Immunohistochemistry (AI, NDV, IBV, ILT, WNV, ABV, IBDV, Chlamydia, Trichomonas, Listeria, *etc.*)

- Parasitology
- Toxicology/Nutritional analysis
- Electron microscopy (DEM, TEM and SEM)
- Virology (egg embryos, cell culture)
 Hematology, serum chemistry, cytology

Biotechnology

PCR (**RT-PCR**)

-AI , NDV, vv/IBDV, IBV, ILT, Reo, Rota, Astro, WNV, Herpes, Adeno, Polyoma, PBFDV

-Bacteria (MG, MS, S. Enteritidis, *Avibacterium*), protozoa, fungi

- MLSA MG (fingerprinting), RFLP ILT
- MALDI TOF (Matrix-associated laser/desorption ionization – Time of Flight)
 5.8S, 16S and 23S rRNA gene sequ for bacteria
 Sequencing - IBV

Standardization and validation

Diagnostic Quality

► Quality/final diagnosis depends on the quality and quantity of effort by pathologist/diagnostician

-Rapid turn around time

- -Thorough diagnostic work up
- **Communication with the clients**
- •Use friendly and easily
- understandable language
- **Client confidentiality maintained**



Avian Reoviruses

> Ubiquitous viruses that cause various diseases of economic significance in chickens and other species of birds

- **>** Genus: Orthoreovirus, Family: Reoviridae
- Arthritis/tenosynovitis and tendon rupture in broiler chickens.
- ✓ Virus is transmitted vertically
- Was well controlled with vaccination of the breeders

Avian Reoviruses – Other diseases

 Malabsorbtion and runting stunting syndrome (RSS) – very common
 Also been associated with respiratory and nervous system disease in chickens
 Immunosuppressive disease in chickens
 Myocarditis in chickens and turkeys
 Generalized disease in ducks, geese, pigeons, psittacines, *etc.*





Emerging Reovirus in Broiler Chickens

- ► USA: 2011-2014 in Pennsylvania. Onset between 2 and 4 weeks of age
- Morbidity: 20 to 40 %, mortality 10 %
- Clinical signs, gross and histopathology
- > Virus isolation and sequencing
- ► Numerous variants: 78 % distinct from vaccine strain, S1133. Novel reovirus
- France, other European count., China, etc.
- Numerous cases in SE USA, esp. Georgia

Emerging Disease of Reovirus in Broiler Chickens

- Disease in California, early 2015
- Numerous cases submitted to Tulare and Turlock laboratories
- **Breeders vaccinated for Reovirus**
- Age of onset about 20 days

> Outbreaks - birds being down on legs, unable to walk, leg/s stretched laterally, posteriorly or anteriorly

Reovirus in Broiler Chickens

Increased morbidity (mostly culls) and mortality, lack of uniformity

- **>** Bacteriology, gross and histopathology
- > Virus isolation (cell culture ID by EM)
- tendons mostly, heart and occasionally liver
- Serology
- > Molecular characterization
- **PCR** and IHC under investigation

























Reovirus in Broiler Chickens

➤ Bacteriology. Occasionally *E. coli* and *Staphylococcus aureus* isolated. Mixed viral and bacterial infections

Serology: mostly negative in acute infections but moderate to high titers in subacute and chronic infections

Virus isolation. Reovirus isolated better in early infections. Adenovirus isolated occasionally, significance unknown

Molecular characterization



Reovirus in Broiler chickens

Breeders vaccinated for S2133 Reovirus

- Clinical signs:starts @ 10 to 15 days of age
- >Vertical transmission
- Tenosynovitis/arthritis

Hydropericardium –epicarditis and myocarditis. Occasionally hepatitis

- > Virus isolated and characterized
- > Variants, variants to variants, etc.
- Breeders are vaccinated with variants



