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and recommended to treat hypocalcaemia (parturient paresis), requires reappraisal. Until this is accomplished calcium solutions alone, as prescribed by the original worker, remain the preferred treatment for milk fever (hypocalcaemia) in all seasons.


Short Communications

Comparison of Campylobacter sputorum sub-species mucosalis strains in PIA and PHE

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Veterinary Record (1977). 101, 407

Rowland and Lawson (1975), stated that the diseases porcine intestinal adenosomatosis (PIA), necrotic enteritis (NE), regional ileitis (RI) and proliferative haemorrhagic enteropathy (PHE) all had a common pathological basis and that organisms that could not be differentiated from Campylobacter sputorum subsp mucosalis had been isolated from the first three of these conditions. Recently, Love and others (1977) described the isolation of a strain of C. sputorum subsp mucosalis from PHE in Australia. Further strains of this organism have been isolated and a comparison has been made between these strains and a strain of C. sputorum subsp mucosalis (National Collection of Type Cultures, NCTC 11000) originally isolated in the United Kingdom from PIA (see Lawson and others 1975a).

Organisms were isolated and tested biochemically as described previously (Love and others 1977). Tests for response to inhibitory substances were made using the replicating method described by Love and others (1975b). The results (Table 1) showed that the organisms isolated from PHE (designated strain 229) and NCTC 11000 could not be distinguished on biochemical criteria and that their response to inhibitory substances was identical.

The rabbits were given twice weekly intravenous injections of increasing amounts of the antigen over a six week period.

Table 1: Comparison of C. sputorum subsp mucosalis strains

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STRAIN</th>
<th>Catalase</th>
<th>H₂S</th>
<th>NO₃</th>
<th>Glucose</th>
<th>NaCl</th>
<th>DOC-</th>
<th>per cent</th>
<th>0.2 per cent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>229</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tube agglutination tests were carried out using whole cell suspensions which were washed from 48 hour blood agar culture plates with 0.3 per cent formol phosphate buffered saline (PBS) pH 7.4. Antigen was diluted in 0.3 per cent formol PBS to Wellcome opacity tube 2 immediately and stored at 5°C. Agglutination tests were performed in parallel against homologous and heterologous antigens. There was marked cross reaction between the strains with homologous titres (1:10,000) higher than heterologous titres (1:250). A number of pig sera which had recovered from PHE were bled and their sera tested for antibodies to strain 220 and NCTC 11000. Control sera were obtained from animals which had been prevented from developing PHE by food medication (see Love and others 1977) and from pigs on a farm with a history of freedom from PHE and related conditions. Table 2 shows that there is a significant agglutination titre to C. sputorum subsp mucosalis strain 2220 in animals recovered from PHE and that there is a weak, but significant, cross reaction with NCTC 11000. Control pigs showed no agglutination antibody titre to either strain 2220 or NCTC 11000.

These findings indicate that strains of C. sputorum subsp mucosalis isolated in the United Kingdom and Australia are biochemically identical and that there is a strong cross reaction between the strains isolated in both countries from two forms of the porcine intestinal adenosomatosis. They also indicate that some animals recovered from PHE have circulating antibody to strain 2220 and low titres to another strain (NCTC 11000). They also support the hypothesis of Rowland and Lawson (1975) that C. sputorum subsp mucosalis infection is common to PIA and the related disease in pigs.

References


Control of diabetes in a capuchin monkey with tolbutamide

A. G. GREENWOOD, D. C. TAYLOR, Hainsworth House, Domens Lane, Keighley, West Yorkshire

Veterinary Record (1977). 101, 407-408

Recent reports have discussed spontaneous diabetes mellitus in non-human primates, including prosimians. Old World monkeys and apes (Di Giacomo and others 1971, Jones 1974) and New World monkeys (Davidson and others 1965). Most of the classical signs of diabetes have been recognized in primates, including weight loss, polydipsia, polyphagia, polyaemia, glycosuria, periodontal disease and cataract. The clinical pathology has been fully studied in the Celebes black ape (<i>Macaque niger</i>) (Howard 1972). Many cases have been
Efficacy of fenbendazole against naturally acquired M expansa infections in lambs


Veterinary Record (1977). 101, 408-409

Numerous studies have shown good efficacy of fenbendazole (Panacur; Hoechst) at the recommended dose level of 5 mg per kg in the treatment of naturally acquired and experimental infestations with gastrointestinal and respiratory nematodes in sheep (Kirsch and Duwel 1975, Ross 1975, Kelly and others 1975, Elsami and Anwar 1976).

Little evidence has been presented on the efficacy of fenbendazole at that dose rate on natural Moniezia spp infections in lambs although Duwel and others (1975) showed 95 per cent elimination at 15 mg per kg and Kelly and Todd (1975) 94 per cent elimination at 7.5 mg per kg. These results confirmed an earlier report by Bezukh (1974) who showed a 99 per cent reduction in Moniezia spp faecal egg count after treatment with 5 mg per kg fenbendazole. It was thought pertinent to establish, under commercial and experimental conditions, the efficacy of a 5 mg per kg dose level against naturally acquired Moniezia spp infections in lambs.

Studies were carried out in 1976 on a farm in Northamptonshire, where tapeworm infections in fattening lambs had been prevalent in previous years.

Two flocks (A and B) each containing 250 ewes and about 400 lambs were made available. The flocks grazed on similar pastures and were subjected to identical management. On days 1, 20 and 56, all lambs in flock A were treated orally with 5 mg per kg fenbendazole and all the lambs in flock B received the manufacturer’s recommended dose level of levamisole (Nilev; ICI) orally on each treatment day. Faeces samples were taken from a random selection of 30 lambs from each flock at each drenching and a further sample obtained at slaughter (day 82), when the intestines of 56 lambs from each flock were examined for the presence of cestodes. All cestodes recovered were found to be M expansa.

Results of Moniezia spp faecal egg counts and post-mortem examinations are shown in Table 1.

It is apparent from these results that a single dose of 5 mg per kg fenbendazole was followed by a reduced number of Moniezia spp eggs in the faeces of infected lambs. It was clear whether the mechanism involved was elimination of segments alone or segments plus larvae. It was evident that the tapeworms recovered from the fenbendazole treated lambs were less mature (size range 50 to 1450 mm).

TABLE 1: Results of faecal egg counts and post-mortem examination

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Treatment</th>
<th>Mean count of Moniezia eggs for 36 lambs (egg.)</th>
<th>Moniezia worms in intestines of 56 lambs examined in each flock</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mean</td>
<td>No of infected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>worms</td>
<td>lambs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flock A</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fenbendazole 2100</td>
<td>3600</td>
<td>1270</td>
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<tr>
<td>Flock B</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Levamisole</td>
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<td>1270</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

References
