



discoveries

15
seconds

- ***M. hyo* predisposes pigs to additional respiratory infections and increases their severity.**
- **In a 60-day study, pigs treated with one dose of Draxxin® (tulathromycin) for SRD due to *M. hyo* had reduced mortality and better average daily gain and feed consumption compared to controls.**
- **Because Draxxin only requires one dose and is indicated for *M. hyo* as well as other important causes of respiratory disease, it provides pork producers with a convenient option for treating complex SRD.**

M. hyo treatment with Draxxin® plays important role in SRD management

Pigs treated for *Mycoplasma hyopneumoniae* (*M. hyo*) with a single dose of the injectable antimicrobial Draxxin® (tulathromycin) had significantly better average daily gain and feed consumption in a 60-day controlled study.¹

They also had lower mortality and a markedly better overall feed-to-gain ratio compared to controls (Table 1), reports Lucina Galina, DVM, PhD, director, swine technical services, Zoetis.

For the study, 200 pigs negative for *M. hyo* were infected with an *M. hyo* field isolate via the trachea and nose 3 days in a row. After challenge, 96 pigs met criteria for swine respiratory disease (SRD), and of these, half received one intramuscular (IM) dose of Draxxin at 2.5 mg/kg bodyweight, as indicated. The remaining pigs served as controls and received an IM injection of saline, she explains.

continued

Table 1. Results in pigs with SRD treated with Draxxin as compared to controls

Treatment group	Average daily gain, 0-60 days (lb/head/day)	Average daily feed intake, 0-60 days (lb/day)	Feed-to-gain ratio, 0-60 days	Mortality
Draxxin (48 pigs)	1.99*	5.17**	2.78	4.2%
Control (48 pigs)	1.77*	4.85**	3.58	8.7%

* Significantly different (p = 0.0015)

** Significantly different (p ≤ 0.0861)

M. hyo treatment with Draxxin® plays important role in SRD management



“The results [of the study] are significant because *M. hyo* not only causes enzootic pneumonia, it plays an important role in the establishment and severity of complex SRD.”

LUCINA GALINA, DVM, PHD

The researchers also scored pigs for attitude/depression and respiratory character. After challenge, all pigs had moderate depression, and almost all had moderately severe respiratory signs. By 10 days after treatment, the proportion of treated pigs scoring normal was 11% higher for attitude/depression and 24% higher for respiratory character compared to controls. In addition, only three treated pigs needed additional antibiotic therapy compared to five controls, Galina says.

Study significance

“The results are significant because *M. hyo* not only causes enzootic pneumonia, it plays an important role in the establishment and severity of complex SRD,” the veterinarian says.

M. hyo predisposes pigs to other SRD bacterial pathogens such as *Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae* (APP) and *Pasteurella multocida* (PM).^{2,3} Many pigs with severe SRD are positive for both *M. hyo* and porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome virus (PRRSV), and *M. hyo* increases the severity of PRRSV.⁴

“This knowledge underscores the importance of treating *M. hyo*, especially considering the cost of respiratory disease rises from less than \$1 per pig when *M. hyo* alone is present to an estimated \$10 per pig when there are co-infections with pathogens such as PRRSV,”⁵ Galina says.

Only one dose required

Draxxin, she continues, is approved for treating not only *M. hyo* but the other four major bacterial causes of SRD: APP, PM, *Bordetella bronchiseptica* and *Haemophilus parasuis*. It reaches peak lung concentrations within 12 hours and provides prolonged exposure of pathogens to the antibiotic,⁶ she says.

“Pork producers can appreciate the convenience of one-dose treatment. There are fewer labor costs and less stress on pigs since they don’t have to be handled as often as needed

with multi-dose injectables,” she says. “It’s a plus that Draxxin is also indicated for other important bacterial causes of respiratory disease.”

Considering *M. hyo* predisposes pigs to other respiratory diseases and worsens their severity, effective treatment of this pathogen can yield multiple disease-control benefits and minimize the economic consequences of SRD, Galina says.

For more information, contact Dr. Galina (lucina.galina@zoetis.com) or your local Zoetis representative.

Important Safety Information for Swine: The pre-slaughter withdrawal time for DRAXXIN in swine is 5 days. DRAXXIN should not be used in animals known to be hypersensitive to the product.

¹ Data on file, Study Report No. 1121R-60-07-292, Zoetis LLC.

² Ciprian A, Pijoan C, Cruz T, et al. *Mycoplasma hyopneumoniae* increases the susceptibility of pigs to experimental *Pasteurella multocida* pneumonia. *Can J Vet Res.* 1988;52:434-438.

³ Marois C, et al. Experimental infection of SPF pigs with *Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae* serotype 9 alone or in association with *Mycoplasma hyopneumoniae*. *Vet Microbiol.* 2009 March;135(3-4):283-291.

⁴ Thacker E, Halbur P, Ross RF, et al. *Mycoplasma hyopneumoniae* potentiation of porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome virus-induced pneumonia. *J Clin Microbiol.* 1999;37(3):620-627.

⁵ Haden DC, Painter T, Fangman T, et al. Assessing production parameters and economic impact of swine influenza, PRRS and *Mycoplasma hyopneumoniae* on finishing pigs in a large production system. In: Proceedings 43rd Annual Meeting Am Assoc Swine Veterinarians. Denver, Colorado. 2012:75-76.

⁶ Benchaoui HA, Nowakowski M, Sherington J, et al. Pharmacokinetics and lung tissue concentrations of tulathromycin in swine. *J Vet Pharmacol Therap.* 2004;27:203-210.

“Pork producers can appreciate the convenience of one-dose treatment. There are fewer labor costs and less stress on pigs since they don’t have to be handled as often as needed with multi-dose injectables.”

LUCINA GALINA, DVM, PHD

discoveries

All trademarks are the property of Zoetis Services LLC or a related company or a licensor unless otherwise noted.

Discoveries is a series of research news reports written by the editors of *Pig Health Today*™ on behalf of the US Pork Business of Zoetis.

To contact *Pig Health Today*:
editor@pighealthtoday.com
PIGHEALTHTODAY.COM

To contact Zoetis:
 888.963.8471
ZOETISUS.COM/PORK

Copyright © 2018, Pig Health Today.
 All rights reserved. DXS-00041

