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Guide to the recognition and treatment of disorders of Pigs

Dr John Carr
Contents of the course notes:

**Introduction**

**Clinical examination skills**

Introduction

Clinical examination skills

- Clinical examination of the individual pig – cooperative and uncooperative
- Recognition of the signs of ill-health
- Examination of a group of pigs
- The basics of a farm visit

**Diagnostics**

- Normal physiological parameters
- Tests for specific diseases
- Blood testing
- Tonsil sample
- Euthanasia of a pig
- Post-mortem examination
- Examination of a semen sample

**Recognition of diseases**

- Stockpersons recognition of clinical signs
- By clinical sign
- By age of the pig

**Normal Behaviour**

- Farrowing
- Nursing patterns and consequences
- Post-weaning – the first five days
- Lying patterns as an indicator of acute comfort
- Defection patterns as an indicator of chronic comfort
- The thermoneutral zone in pigs
- Handling and moving pigs
- Mixing pigs
- Pen design to accommodate pig behaviours

**Reproductive behaviours:**

- The signs of oestrus
- Oestrus behaviour patterns
- Courtship behaviour
- Boar breeding or stud behaviour signs

**The major diseases of the pig**

The major diseases of the pig are presented by the body system which is most significantly affected from a gross clinical examination view.

**Skin**

- Anatomy of the skin
- Erysipelas
- Foot and Mouth Disease
- Greasy Pig disease
- Herniation
- Mange
Porcine Dermatitis and Nephropathy Syndrome
Swine Fevers
Tail biting and other vices
Other skin conditions
  Pityriasis rosea
  Pig Pox
  Ringworm
  Epithelium imperfecta
  Dermatitis parakeratosis
  Abscess
  Flaking skin
  Areas of skin trauma

Head
  Clinical gross anatomy of the head
  Progressive atrophic rhinitis
  Congenital tremor
  Conjunctivitis
  Meningitis
  Post-weaning sneezing
  Other conditions:
    Middle Ear
    Aural Haematoma

Chest
  Clinical anatomy of the chest
  Actinobacillus pleuropneumonia
  \textit{Actinobacillus suis}
  Enzootic (Mycoplasma) pneumonia
  Glasser’s Disease
  Mulberry Heart
  Pneumonia Pasteurellosis and Streptococci
  Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome
  Porcine Respiratory Coronavirus
  Swine Influenza

Intestinal tract
  Anatomy of the intestinal tract
  Abdominal catastrophe
  \textit{Ascaris suum}
  Brachyspira colitis
  \textit{Clostridium difficile}
  \textit{Clostridium perfringens}
  Coccidiosis of piglets
  Non-specific colitis
  \textit{Escherichia coli} – general
  Bowel Oedema
  Pre and post-weaning diarrhoea
Pre-weaning diarrhoea treatment
Gastric ulceration
Porcine epidemic diarrhoea
Porcine proliferative enteropathy (Ileitis)
Pig parasites
Rectal stricture
Rotavirus
Salmonellosis
Swine dysentery
TGE

Reproductive tract
Anatomy of the reproductive tract
Abortion in the pig
Aujeszky’s Disease (Pseudorabies)
Brucellosis
Common developmental abnormalities
Milk production and suckling problems
Analysis of returns
Leptospirosis
Parvovirus
Rectal and vaginal prolapses
Stillborn and mummified piglets
Tumours of the pig
14-21 days post-service vulval discharges
Also see: Erysipelas, Swine Influenza and Swine Fever(s)
Surgery of the reproductive tract
General introduction
Castration in the piglet
Castration in the adult male
Vasectomy
Epididectomy
Ovariohysterectomy
Caesarian section

Urinary Tract
Clinical anatomy of the urinary tract
Pyelonephritis and cystitis

Lymphatic system
Clinical anatomy of the lymphatic system
Porcine Circovirus Associated Diseases
Post-weaning Multisystemic Wasting Syndrome
Leukaemia - See Tumors of the pig in Diseases of the Reproductive tract

Locomotor system
Anatomy of the locomotor system:
Young lameness:
Mycoplasma arthritis
Joint ill
Splayleg
Trauma
Skin abrasion in the piglet and weaner
Ulceration and erosion injuries
Bursitis

Adult lameness:
Bush foot
Osteocondrosis desicans (OCD)
Femoral head fracture – epiphyseolysis
Split hips
Shoulder sores
Ulcerated granuloma
Overgrown feet
Erysipelas and adult arthritis
Broken legs
Infected joints
Conformation problem
Growing stock

Lameness in pet pigs

Diseases reportable to the OIE and Zoonotic diseases

Diseases notifiable to the Office International des Epizootics (OIE – World Organisation for Animal Health)
Zoonotic diseases of Pigs

Other Pathogens
Anthrax
Enterovirus encephalomyelitis
Japanese Encephalomyelitis virus
Nipah
Parasites
Rabies
Rinderpest
Toxoplasmosis

Disease treatment and control concepts

Maintenance of healthy pigs through management

Treatment by medication
Use of medicines on farm
Use of vaccines through the water supply
Feed bin management to eliminate medication residues
Common medication problems

Treatment guidelines
Use of antibiotics in pigs
Use of vaccines in pigs
Control of reproduction
Withdrawal times
Examples of treatment programmes
Piglets
Nursery
Grow/finishing
Adults
Boars
Using Statistical Process Control to help decision making

Care of the compromised pig
   Design of a hospital area
   Health alarm
   Care of the compromised grower
   Care of the compromised adult

Reduction of pathogens on a farm
   Basic biosecurity
   Managing all-in/all-out – Pig Flow
   Use of Early Weaning to Reduce Pathogen Load
   Room cleaning protocols
   Partial depopulation
   Depopulation and repopulation