



Editors

Ian Gardner
(iagardner@ucdavis.edu)

Yrjo Grohn
(ytg1@cornell.edu)

Vivek Kapur
(vkapur@psu.edu)

Ken Olson
(keolson@prodigy.net)

JDIP News is published periodically to enhance intramural communications and ensure that JDIP participants and stakeholders are updated on news of relevance to our community.

Please direct any contributions, suggestions and comments via email to: Vivek Kapur, JDIP Program Director, at vkapur@psu.edu

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Funding for JDIP is provided through competitive award number 2008-55620-18710 from the Animal Biosecurity Program of USDA-CSREES-National Research Initiative.

In This Issue:

	<u>Page</u>
Year 5 RFA Update	1
Reporting standards for test evaluation studies for paratuberculosis: a path forward	2
JDIP Core 1 Update	3
New Johne's Strategic Plan	3
Plans set for the 10 th ICP and the 2 nd New Horizons Workshop	4
EAB Leadership Transition	5
Vaccine Evaluation Program Ready to Go	5
Upcoming Meetings and Events	6
Johne's Disease in Print	
o Producer Publications	7
o Peer Review – Johne's Disease	7
o Peer Review – Crohn's Disease	11

Year 5 RFA Update

By: Ken Olson, Ph.D.

Last fall JDIP announced its Year 5-Request for Applications (RFA). Twenty proposals, which spanned the full spectrum of JDIP Cores and projects, were received in response to the call. Since JDIP does have a major three year project underway in vaccine development, vaccine proposals were limited. Total funding requested in the proposals was approximately \$1.43 million. JDIP has approximately \$850,000 available for funding the current cycle of projects, so critical funding decisions were required. As in past years, each proposal was reviewed for scientific merit by members of JDIP's Scientific Advisory Board (SAB), Executive Committee (EC) and "outside" reviewers with expertise in the area addressed by the proposal. Members of the SAB and EC, along with three members of the External Advisory Board (EAB), met on January 31st and February 1st, 2009 at The Pennsylvania State University to finalize the reviews and develop recommendations for funding to move forward to the EAB for their action. The EAB is currently completing their review of the proposals and recommendations. Based on their action, decisions will be finalized relative to projects to be funded and final funding levels for the funded projects. Final decisions will be announced later this spring.



Review of the Year 5 RFA Proposals

Reporting standards for test evaluation studies for paratuberculosis: a path forward

By: Ian Gardner, Ph.D.

“There is a profound lack of reliable test evaluations, and future assessments should be conducted more stringently to allow appropriate interpretation and comparison across populations” concluded Drs. Soren Nielsen and Niels Toft in their 2008 Veterinary Microbiology paper which reviewed the quality of 85 published test validation studies for paratuberculosis in cattle (58), goats (15), sheep (11) and deer (1) .

Some publications since 2005 are of higher quality compared to those published in prior years but I concur with their general assessment of the literature. Development of standards for the design and reporting of test evaluation studies for paratuberculosis (and other animal infectious diseases) is overdue and has many potential benefits. First, standards could help avoid tests of poor utility that don't improve management decisions by livestock producers or reduce potential public health risks. Second, provision of design and analysis guidelines for researchers, grant proposal reviewers and test developers interested in licensure of their products would help improve consistency of the review and assessment process. Finally, standards could help guide choices of sample types to be included in repositories or sample banks developed for use in test validation studies.

In human medicine, the occurrence of widespread quality deficiencies in published papers led to an initiative known as STARD (**Standards for Reporting of Diagnostic Accuracy**) to improve the accuracy, completeness and transparency of studies reporting on diagnostic accuracy. Since initial publication of the STARD Statement in 2003, more than 200 biomedical journals (including 2 veterinary journals, *Acta Veterinaria Scandinavica* and *BMC Veterinary Research*) now endorse the STARD statement (available at www.stard-statement.org/) and most recommend use of the STARD checklist of 25 items in their instructions to authors.

However, the STARD checklist was primarily developed for evaluation of tests in individual human patients with clinical disease and hence, may not be directly extrapolated to testing scenarios in animal health. For paratuberculosis, the focus of tests mostly is on detection of “infection” or “infectiousness” in subclinically infected animals rather than diagnosis of clinical disease. In addition, tests are often developed for use at the herd or group (pool) level and there is a more diverse set of matrices (e.g. blood, feces, milk, tissues, environmental samples, meat etc) in which the tests will need to be applied, further complicating the development of simple guidelines. Also, unlike our human medical colleagues, we often do not have the financial or technical resources to obtain gold standard information for all our patients, that is traditionally expected as part of test evaluation studies.

To address the need for more standardized approaches to paratuberculosis test evaluation, I, along with three other JDIP colleagues (Dr. Michael Collins, School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin; Dr. Beth Harris, USDA National Veterinary Services Laboratory, Ames, Iowa; and Dr. Srinand Sreevatsan, College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Minnesota, Saint Paul, Minnesota) are developing a list of STARD-like items for broader consideration by the Johne's disease community. A consensus meeting to discuss these items is being planned in association with the Tenth ICP meeting in August 2009 in Minneapolis.

JDIP Core 1 Update -

By Yrjo Grohn, Ph.D.

Drs. Ynte Schukken and Yrjo Grohn presented their mathematical modeling course (which also included Johne's disease) in Sweden January 12-14, 2009. There were a total of 17 participants, primarily PhD students. The course will not be offered this summer due to the fact that two major international Johne's related conferences are scheduled at the time the course is normally offered: the ICP in Minnesota and ISVEE in South Africa.

Members of the Core have been successful in leveraging outside funds. The Cornell Johne's group (Yrjo Grohn, Ynte Schukken, and Loren Tauer with their post doc Zhao Lu and PhD student Becky Smith) has recently been awarded two major USDA grants:

In the first grant (USDA-NRI), entitled **“Cost effective control strategies for the reduction of Johne’s disease on dairy farms,”** the objective is to determine more precisely the cost of MAP infection to US dairy herds and the cost efficacy of various control strategies. In this project they will statistically analyze field data from 10 dairy herds of the JDIP cohort using mixed models and survival analysis methods to define the impact of MAP infection on milk production, reproduction, and culling in dairy cows. These relationships will be used to parameterize their previously developed infectious disease model for MAP. This model will then be extended to robustly address questions of on-farm economics. The resultant economic model for MAP control will be used to determine the optimum control strategies given different farm characteristics and circumstances. Among these circumstances is the possibility that zoonotic concerns may require the elimination of MAP from the commercial milk supply.

In the second grant (USDA Critical Issue), entitled **“Modeling Johne’s disease vaccination: Impacts on the bovine Tuberculosis eradication and the Voluntary Bovine Johne’s Disease Control Programs,”** they will determine the cost of MAP infection in vaccinated US dairy herds and the cost efficacy of vaccination alone and in combination with various control strategies, including the cost of TB misdiagnosis.

The results of these studies will fill existing knowledge gaps that have been identified as high priority areas for ruminants: the cost of JD to the dairy industry and the cost-effectiveness of MAP control strategies. The constructed model can also be used as a decision-making tool in herds attempting to cost effectively control MAP.

New Johne’s Strategic Plan

By: Ken Olson, Ph.D.

A new strategic plan for the “National Johne’s Disease Program” was adopted at the 2008 USAHA Annual Meeting. The plan, which covers the next five years, seeks to establish a stronger public / private partnership that can move the program forward even during this era of declining budgets. It defines updated roles and responsibilities for industry and universities as well as state and federal government agencies as it lays out a comprehensive program that can be used by all stakeholders. JDIP is identified in the plan as an important partner in research and information development. A copy of the plan is available on our website www.jdip.org. Click on “Producer Information” and a link to the document is near the bottom of the page. Please contact Ken Olson keolson@prodigy.net if you have questions or comments about the plan. For the plan and program to succeed, it is important that stakeholders be aware of the plan and work together on ways to implement it.

Plans set for the 10th International Colloquium for Paratuberculosis (ICP) and the 2nd New Horizons Workshop – August 9-14

By: Ken Olson, Ph.D.

Sponsored by the [International Association for Paratuberculosis](#) every second year, the ICP is routinely attended by a large number of delegates from countries around the world. The colloquium, being held in Wiley Hall at the University of Minnesota August 9 to 14, is expected to attract 300 to 350 scientists and administrators from universities, research organizations, and industry as well as state veterinary representatives and producers. This marks the second time the ICP has been held in the United States.

A highlight of the 2009 ICP will be a special session on the possible role of *M. avium* subsp. *paratuberculosis* as a public health threat. This event will be of particular interest to medical scientists, researchers and decision makers. Presenters for the session are Dr. Tim Bull and Dr. Herb Van Kruiningen.

The scientific program promises to be exciting and information packed with well-known international speakers invited to give plenary lectures and dedicated scientists reporting new results in a number of focused scientific sessions as outlined below. In addition, there will be poster sessions and a commercial exhibition adjoining the break area. Researchers are invited to submit abstracts until May 1. Instructions are available at:

<http://www.cvm.umn.edu/outreach/events/icp/icpabstract/home.html>

An extension outreach workshop for veterinarians and animal producers “**New Horizons in Johne’s Disease Control**,” will be held on August 10. The workshop will focus on field application of the more basic research conducted around the world. The basic objective is to first identify why herd programs are important and then discuss various strategies for working with the disease at the herd level and wrap up with a case study where various actions discussed have been used. It is sponsored by the Johne’s Disease Integrated Program.

10th ICP Schedule

Date	Time	Event
Sun. 8/9	1:30 PM	IAP Board Meeting
	2 – 6:00 PM	Registration
	6 – 7:00 PM	Opening Session – Public Health discussion
	7:00 PM	Reception
Mon. 8/10	9 AM – 2:30 PM	Session 1 – Diagnostics and Genotyping
	2:45 – 6:30 PM	Session 2 – Host Response and Immunology
	9 AM – 5:00 PM	New Horizons – Practitioner/ Producer Workshop
Tue. 8/11	9 AM – 2:30 PM	Session 3 – Epidemiology (molecular)
	3 PM – 5:30 PM	Poster Session
Wed. 8/12	8:30 AM – 1 PM	Session 4 - Pathogenomics and MAP Biology
	8:30 AM – 1 PM	Session 5 - MAP Control
	1:30 – 5:00 PM	ICP Social Event
Thur. 8/13	9 AM – 12:30 PM	Session 6 – Public Health
	1:30 – 2:30 PM	IAP General Meeting
	2:30 – 4:30 PM	Session 7 – International Initiatives
	5:00 PM	IAP Reception and Dinner
Fri. 8/14		Tour to NADC and / or Special Workshops

Please visit <http://www.cvm.umn.edu/outreach/events/icp/home.html> for registration and further meeting information.

EAB Leadership Transition

By: Ken Olson, Ph.D.

Dr. Don Lein of Cornell University has been selected as the incoming chair of JDIP's External Advisory Board (EAB). He replaces Dr. Larry Hutchison of The Pennsylvania State University, who served in that role since the inception of JDIP. After stepping down as chair, Dr. Hutchinson will continue to serve as an active member of the EAB. The EAB provides important input and guidance to JDIP. The board includes a cross section of JDIP's public and private stakeholders. They are charged with providing advice on programmatic matters, conducting reviews of scientific programs and JDIP activities. Through these activities they ensure that JDIP stays true to its mission while capitalizing on recent scientific advances and that the program responds to emergent needs in the field. Dr. Lein has served in many leadership roles during his career. He brings a wealth of experience and a vast network of domestic and international animal health, industry and political contacts to the role of chair of the EAB. We look forward to his leadership of the EAB and the input that they will provide in helping to set the future direction for JDIP.

Vaccine Evaluation Program Ready to Go!

By: Vivek Kapur, BVSc, Ph.D. and Tiffany Cunningham, J.D.

After much discussion, coordination, and paper work, we are now ready to initiate the USDA-APHIS sponsored vaccine testing program, and will be accepting submissions for participation in the program, in accordance with Phase I.

Submission guidelines and forms are also available on the opening page of the JDIP web-site (www.jdip.org). Simply click on the PDF or Word link. Please forward to any investigators whom you feel may have an interest since this is an excellent opportunity to evaluate your candidate vaccines in a direct comparison with other candidates submitted by your peers.

For those who are unfamiliar with the program, there is interest among many veterinarians and producers alike in the application of vaccination as a tool in Johne's programs; however, there is only one vaccine available at the present time. That vaccine has limitations and is not approved for use in all states. JDIP scientists are working closely with USDA-APHIS-VS in an effort to identify viable vaccine candidates and evaluate those with the greatest potential for commercial development. The project is in the initial stages of a three step process.

Phase I – Potential candidates are currently being solicited. This includes both modified live organisms and subunits. In vitro screening in two laboratories will identify the "Best Candidates."

Phase II - These "Best Candidates" will next be evaluated through the use of a mouse model. It is anticipated that two laboratories will conduct the infection/protection studies in the mouse.

Phase III – The "Best Candidates" identified through the mouse studies will then be evaluated using a "Goat model." This will provide data similar to that from cattle, but the data are available in a much shorter time frame and at a lower cost.

We look forward to participation in the program. Please feel free to e-mail any questions or clarifications to JDIP at vaccines@jdip.org.

Upcoming Meetings and Events

March 30 - April 2, 2009

National Institute for Animal Agriculture Annual Meeting (Galt House Hotel & Suites * Louisville, KY. USA)

<http://www.animalagriculture.org/>

May 17 - 21, 2009

American Society of Microbiology Annual Meeting (Pennsylvania Convention Center * Philadelphia, PA. USA)

<http://www.gm.asm.org/>

July 11 - 14, 2009

American Veterinary Medical Association Annual Meeting (Seattle, WA. USA)

<http://www.avma.org/>

July 12 - 16, 2009

American Dairy Science Association Annual Meeting. (Montreal, Quebec, Canada)

<http://adsa.asas.org/meetings/2009>

August 9 - 14, 2009

10th International Colloquium on Paratuberculosis (St. Paul/ Minneapolis, Minnesota. USA) August 10 – 2nd “New Horizon’s in Johne’s Disease Control” workshop for practitioners and producers in Conjunction with ICP

<http://paratuberculosis.org/> and

<http://www.cvm.umn.edu/outreach/events/icp/home.html>

August 10 - 14, 2009

12th International Symposium on Veterinary Epidemiology and Economics. (International Convention Centre * Durban, South Africa)

<http://www.isvee12.co.za>

August 24 – 27, 2009

Annual Meeting European Association for Animal Production (Barcelona, Spain)

<http://www.eaap2009.com:80/>

August 25 - 28, 2009

5th International M. bovis V Conference (The Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa * Wellington, New Zealand)

<http://www.mbovisconference.org/>

September 10 - 12, 2009

42nd Annual Conference of the American Association of Bovine Practitioners (Quest Center * Omaha, NE. USA)

<http://www.aabp.org/meeting/default.asp>

Sept.29 – October 3, 2009

World Dairy Expo (Madison, WI. USA)

<http://www.world-dairy-expo.com>

November 10 – 12, 2009

National Milk Producers Federation, National Dairy Board, United Dairy Industry Assoc. Joint Annual Meeting (Grapevine, TX. USA)

http://www.nmpf.org/annual_meeting

JD In Print – Producer Press

- **Gatz, T.** Which Johne's Test? Four options to choose from. 2009. Dairy Today - Production Brief. February
- Johne's Online – Courses offered in English, Spanish. 2009. Dairy Today - Production Brief. January
- Johne's Can Be Beat – Minnesota producers cut prevalence in half. 2008. Dairy Today – Production Briefs, Nov.
- **Olson, K.E.** Which Johne's test...When? Hoard's Dairyman. 2009. Feb. 10.
- **Quaife, T.** Take Johne's More Seriously. 2008. Dairy Herd Management. Nov. 1.
- **Schuff, S.** Johne's – Crohn's Research Priorities Listed. 2008. Feedstuffs. Nov. 17.
- **Shulaw, W.** 2008 Cattle Health: Johnes Disease - Testing Alternatives (Part 2). 2009. "CattleNetwork" on-line 2/18/2009. <http://www.cattlenetwork.com:80/Content.asp?ContentID=292007>
- **Shulaw, W.** 2009. Johne's Disease: What Have We Learned From Our Demonstration Herd Project?.2009. "CattleNetwork" on-line 2/11/2009. <http://www.cattlenetwork.com:80/Content.asp?ContentID=290345>

JD In Print – Peer Review Johne's Disease Related Publications

- **Alexander DC, Turenne CY, Behr MA.** Insertion and deletion events that define the pathogen *Mycobacterium avium* subsp. *paratuberculosis*. J Bacteriol. 2009 Feb; 191(3):1018-25. Epub 2008 Nov 21. PMID: 19028885.
- **Alinovi CA, Ward MP, Lin TL, Moore GE, Wu CC.** Real-time PCR, compared to liquid and solid culture media and ELISA, for the detection of *Mycobacterium avium* ssp. *paratuberculosis*. Vet Microbiol. 2008 Nov 1. PMID: 19091493.
- **Allen AJ, Park KT, Barrington GM, Lahmers KK, Hamilton MJ, Davis WC.** Development of a Bovine Ileal Cannulation Model to Study the Immune Response and Mechanisms of Pathogenesis of Paratuberculosis. Clin Vaccine Immunol. 2009 Feb 18. PMID: 19225077.
- **Bolster CH, Cook KL, Haznedaroglu BZ, Walker SL.** The transport of *Mycobacterium avium* subsp. *paratuberculosis* through saturated aquifer materials. Lett Appl Microbiol. 2009 Mar; 48(3):307-12. Epub 2009 Jan 16. PMID: 19207858.
- **Bush RD, Windsor PA, Toribio JA, Webster SR.** Financial modelling of the potential cost of ovine Johne's disease and the benefit of vaccinating sheep flocks in southern New South Wales. Bush RD, Windsor PA, Toribio JA, Webster SR. Aust Vet J. 2008 Oct; 86(10): 398-403. PMID: 18826512.
- **Böckelmann U, Dörries HH, Ayuso-Gabella MN, Salgot de Marçay M, Tandoi V, Levantesi C, Masciopinto C, Van Houtte E, Szewzyk U, Wintgens T, Grohmann E.** Quantitative PCR monitoring of antibiotic resistance genes and bacterial pathogens in three European artificial groundwater recharge systems. Appl Environ Microbiol. 2009 Jan; 75(1):154-63. Epub 2008 Nov 14. PMID: 19011075.
- **Candela MG, Serrano E, Martinez-Carrasco C, Martín-Atance P, Cubero MJ, Alonso F, Leon L.** Coinfection is an important factor in epidemiological studies: the first serosurvey of the aoudad (*Ammotragus lervia*). Eur J Clin Microbiol Infect Dis. 2008 Nov 20. PMID: 19020912.
- **Castellanos E, Aranaz A, Gould KA, Linedale R, Stevenson K, Alvarez J, Dominguez L, de Juan L, Hinds J, Bull TJ.** Discovery of stable and variable differences in the *Mycobacterium avium* subsp. *paratuberculosis* type I, II, and III genomes by pan-genome microarray analysis. Appl Environ Microbiol. 2009 Feb; 75(3):676-86. Epub 2008 Dec 1. PMID: 19047395.
- **Davidson RS, Marion G, White PC, Hutchings MR.** Use of host population reduction to control wildlife infection: rabbits and paratuberculosis. Epidemiol Infect. 2009 Jan; 137(1):131-8. Epub 2008 Apr 18. PMID: 18419853.

- **Elzo MA, Rae DO, Lanhart SE, Hembry FG, Wasdin JG, Driver JD.** Association between cow reproduction and calf growth traits and ELISA scores for paratuberculosis in a multibreed herd of beef cattle. *Trop Anim Health Prod.* 2008 Nov 8. PMID: 18998232.
- **Fernández JG, Fernández-de-Mera I, Reyes LE, Ferreras MC, Pérez V, Gortazar C, Fernández M, García-Marín JF.** Comparison of three immunological diagnostic tests for the detection of avian tuberculosis in naturally infected red deer (*Cervus elaphus*). *J Vet Diagn Invest.* 2009 Jan; 21(1):102-7. PMID: 19139508.
- **Ferrouillet C, Wells SJ, Hartmann WL, Godden SM, Carrier J.** Decrease of Johne's disease prevalence and incidence in six Minnesota, USA, dairy cattle herds on a long-term management program. *Prev Vet Med.* 2009 Feb 1; 88(2):128-37. Epub 2008 Oct 9. PMID: 18848365.
- **Fulton Z, McAlister A, Wilce MC, Brammananth R, Zaker-Tabrizi L, Perugini MA, Bottomley SP, Coppel RL, Crellin PK, Rossjohn J, Beddoe T.** Crystal structure of a UDP-glucose-specific glycosyltransferase from a *Mycobacterium* species. *J Biol Chem.* 2008 Oct 10; 283(41):27881-90. Epub 2008 Jul 30. PMID: 18667419.
- **Golan L, Livneh-Kol A, Gonen E, Yagel S, Rosenshine I, Shpigel NY.** *Mycobacterium avium* paratuberculosis invades human small-intestinal goblet cells and elicits inflammation. *J Infect Dis.* 2009 Feb 1; 199(3):350-4. PMID: 19133807.
- **Griffin JF, Hughes AD, Liggett S, Farquhar PA, Mackintosh CG, Bakker D.** Efficacy of novel lipid-formulated whole bacterial cell vaccines against *Mycobacterium avium* subsp. paratuberculosis in sheep. *Vaccine.* 2009 Feb 5; 27(6):911-8. Epub 2008 Dec 4. PMID: 19059295.
- **Groenendaal H, Wolf CA.** Farm-level economic analysis of the US National Johne's Disease Demonstration Herd Project. *J Am Vet Med Assoc.* 2008 Dec 15; 233(12):1852-8. PMID: 19072597.
- **Gumber S, Taylor DL, Whittington RJ.** Evaluation of the immunogenicity of recombinant stress-associated proteins during *Mycobacterium avium* subsp. paratuberculosis infection: Implications for pathogenesis and diagnosis. *Vet Microbiol.* 2009 Jan 8. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 19186011.
- **Gumber S, Whittington RJ.** Analysis of the growth pattern, survival and proteome of *Mycobacterium avium* subsp. paratuberculosis following exposure to heat. *Vet Microbiol.* 2008 Oct 15. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 19019575.
- **Herthnek D, Nielsen SS, Lindberg A, Bölske G.** A robust method for bacterial lysis and DNA purification to be used with real-time PCR for detection of *Mycobacterium avium* subsp. paratuberculosis in milk. *J Microbiol Methods.* 2008 Oct; 75(2):335-40. Epub 2008 Jul 20. PMID: 18694788.
- **Hughes V, Bannantine JP, Denham S, Smith S, Garcia-Sanchez A, Sales J, Paustian ML, Mclean K, Stevenson K.** Immunogenicity of proteome-determined *Mycobacterium avium* subsp. paratuberculosis-specific proteins in sheep with paratuberculosis. *Clin Vaccine Immunol.* 2008 Dec; 15(12):1824-33. Epub 2008 Oct 8. PMID: 18845834.
- **Irengue LM, Walravens K, Govaerts M, Godfroid J, Rosseels V, Huygen K, Gala JL.** Development and validation of a triplex real-time PCR for rapid detection and specific identification of *M. avium* sub sp. paratuberculosis in faecal samples. *Vet Microbiol.* 2008 Oct 21. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 19095382.
- **Juste RA, Elguezabal N, Pavón A, Garrido JM, Geijo M, Sevilla I, Cabriada JL, Tejada A, García-Campos F, Casado R, Ochotorena I, Izeta A.** Association between *Mycobacterium avium* subsp. paratuberculosis DNA in blood and cellular and humoral immune response in inflammatory bowel disease patients and controls. *Int J Infect Dis.* 2008 Oct 13. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 18922720.
- **Kadam M, Shardul S, Bhagath JL, Tiwari V, Prasad N, Goswami PP.** Coexpression of 16.8 kDa antigen of *Mycobacterium avium* paratuberculosis and murine gamma interferon in a bicistronic vector and studies on its potential as DNA vaccine. *Vet Res Commun.* 2009 Feb 6. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 19199070.
- **Kathaperumal K, Kumanan V, McDonough S, Chen LH, Park SU, Moreira MA, Akey B, Huntley J, Chang CF, Chang YF.** Evaluation of immune responses and protective efficacy in a goat model following immunization with a cocktail of recombinant antigens and a polyprotein of *Mycobacterium avium* subsp. paratuberculosis. *Vaccine.* 2009 Jan 1; 27(1):123-35. Epub 2008 Oct 26. PMID: 18955101.
- **Kennedy KJ, Tetlow L.** Test and teach. Chronic soft tissue inflammation following accidental inoculation with a sheep vaccine. Diagnosis: Immune response to mineral oil and *Mycobacterium* antigens in vaccine strain (Gudair) of *Mycobacterium avium* subsp. paratuberculosis. *Pathology.* 2008 Dec; 40(7):711-3. No abstract available. PMID: 18985526.

- **Knösel T, Schewe C, Petersen N, Dietel M, Petersen I.** Prevalence of infectious pathogens in Crohn's disease. *Pathol Res Pract.* 2009 Jan 29. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 19186006.
- **Kudahl AB, Nielsen SS, Østergaard S.** Economy, efficacy, and feasibility of a risk-based control program against paratuberculosis. *J Dairy Sci.* 2008 Dec; 91(12):4599-609. PMID: 19038935.
- **Lowe AM, Yansouni CP, Behr MA.** Causality and gastrointestinal infections: Koch, Hill, and Crohn's. *Lancet Infect Dis.* 2008 Nov; 8(11):720-6. PMID: 18992408.
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- **Mackenzie N, Alexander DA, Turenne CY, Behr MA, De Buck JM.** Genomic comparison of the PE and PPE genes in the *Mycobacterium avium* complex. *J Clin Microbiol.* 2009 Jan 14. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 19144814.
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- **Mendoza JL, Lana R, Diaz-Rubio M.** *Mycobacterium avium* subspecies paratuberculosis and its relationship with Crohn's disease. *World J Gastroenterol.* 2009 Jan 28; 15(4):417-22. PMID: 19152445.
- **Mikkelsen H, Jungersen G, Nielsen SS.** Association between milk antibody and interferon-gamma responses in cattle from *Mycobacterium avium* subsp. paratuberculosis infected herds. *Vet Immunol Immunopathol.* 2009 Feb 15; 127(3-4):235-241. Epub 2008 Oct 18. PMID: 19027177.
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- **Nelli RK, Graham E, Dunham SP, Taylor DJ.** Real-time PCR identification of *Mycobacterium avium* subspecies paratuberculosis in ovine and bovine tissues. *Vet Rec.* 2008 Oct 4; 163(14):422-3. No abstract available. PMID: 18836157.
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- **Nielsen SS, Toft N.** A review of prevalences of paratuberculosis in farmed animals in Europe. *Prev Vet Med.* 2009 Jan 1; 88(1):1-14. Epub 2008 Sep 24. PMID: 18817995.
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