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Transmission of border disease virus to seronegative cows inseminated with infected semen

Braun, Ueli ; Frei, Sandra ; Schweizer, M ; Janett, Fredy ; Zanoni, R

Abstract: The goal of this study was to investigate the transmissibility of border disease (BD) virus to seronegative cows via artificial insemination with cryopreserved semen from a bull persistently infected with BD virus. Five pestivirus naive cows were inseminated with BD virus-infected semen. Blood was collected for detection of pestivirus antibody by means of an ELISA on day 0 (day of insemination) and then every 7 days until day 56, at which time a serum neutralisation test (SNT) for differentiation of BD and BVD virus was carried out. Seroconversion was first noticed in two cows on day 14, in two cows on day 21 and in one cow on day 28. In the SNT, all cows had distinctly positive titres against BD virus. Therefore, BD virus is readily transmitted by infected semen, but none of the cows conceived, most likely because of poor semen quality.

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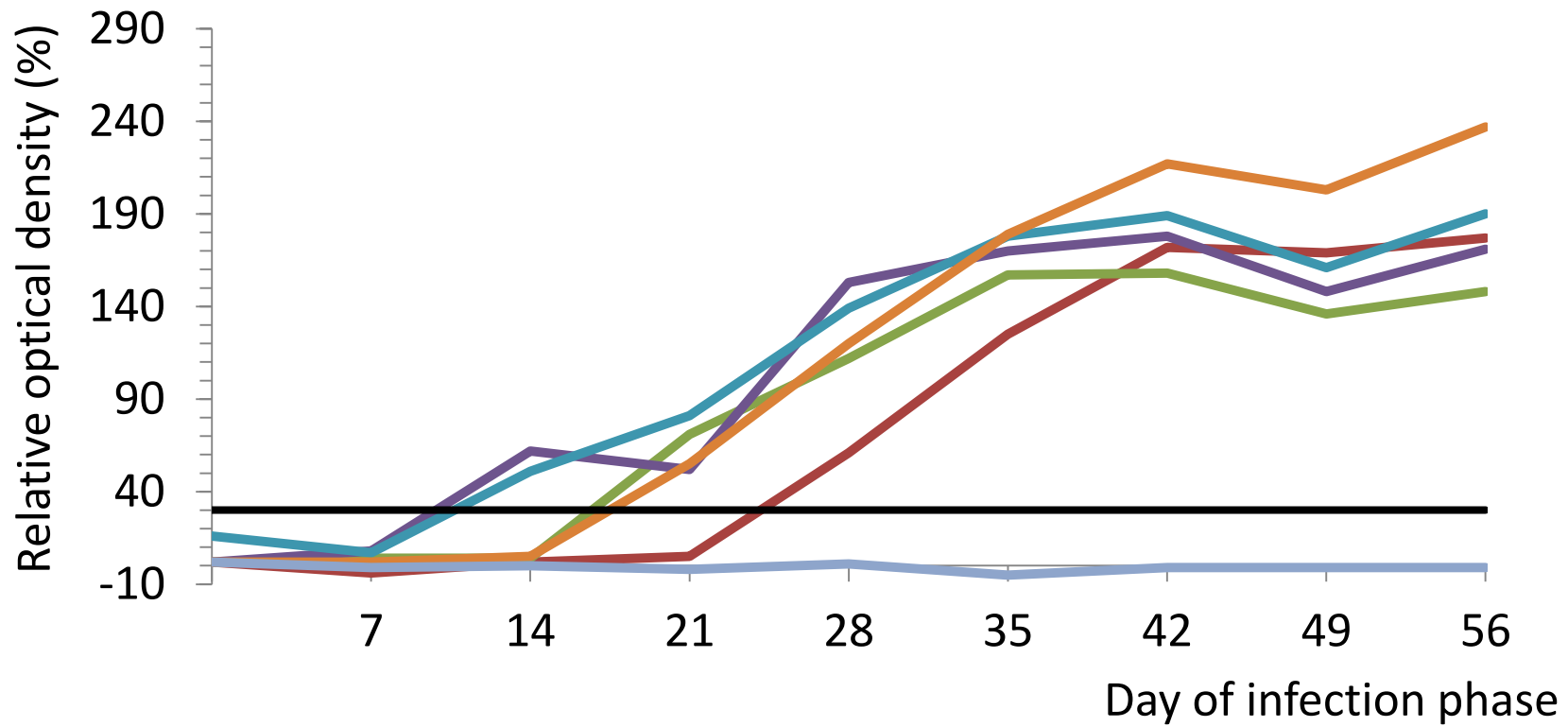
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- Cow 1
- Cow 2
- Cow 3
- Cow 4
- Cow 5
- Control cow
- Threshold value ELISA