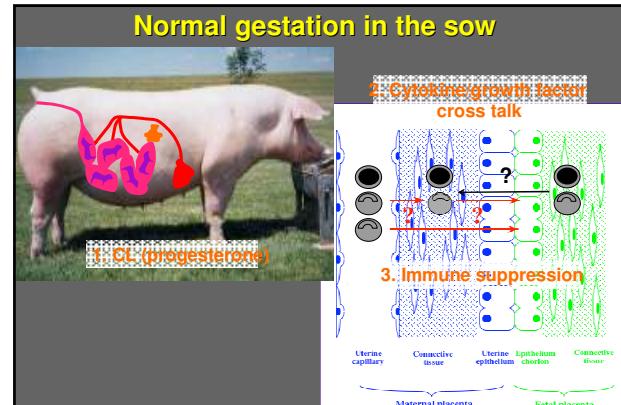


**Virus infections causing reproductive problems  
Pathogenesis, clinical symptoms and diagnosis**

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Faculty of Veterinary Medicine  
Ghent University, Belgium



**How do viruses cause reproductive problems?**

1. General disease (fever) ~ pro-inflammatory cytokines causing distortion of cytokine balance  
-> swine influenzavirus, ...
2. Replication of pathogens in reproductive tract/embryo/fetus
  - > DNA viruses: Aujeszky's disease virus, parvovirus, porcine circovirus 2
  - > RNA viruses: porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome virus, porcine enteroviruses, encephalomyocarditis virus, classical swine fever virus

**How do viruses reach embryos/fetuses?**

1. Contaminated sperm

**How do viruses reach embryos/fetuses?**

2: Viremia + transplacental spread

**1. Via contaminated sperm**

Virus excretion in sperm ~ viremia

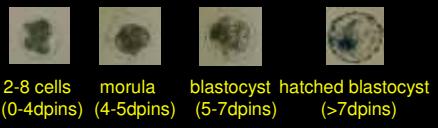
DNA-viruses	Embrvo
ADV (<14 dPI)	Virus rep & ↑
PPV (<14 dPI)	Virus rep & ↑
PCV2 (<50 dPI)	Virus rep & ↑

RNA-viruses

PRRSV (<50 dPI)	No virus rep (only infection sow)
PEV (<14 dPI)	Virus rep & ↑
CSFV (<14 dPI)	Virus rep & ↑

repeat breeding

## At what stages can embryos be infected ? ZP intact embryos



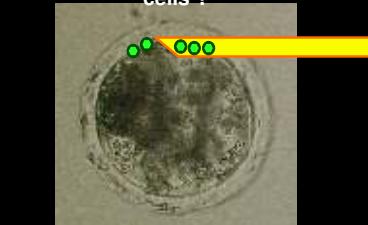
	2-8 cells (0-4dpins)	morula (4-5dpins)	blastocyst (5-7dpins)	hatched blastocyst (>7dpins)
ADV	-	-	-	+
PPV	-	-	-	+
PCV2	-	-	-	+
PRRSV	-	-	-	-
PEV	?	?	?	+
CSFV	?	?	?	+

Resistance of ZP+ embryos  
-> due to the presence of the ZP ?  
-> due to the resistance of embryonic cells ?



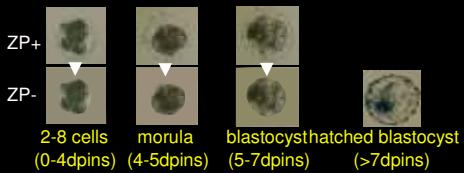
a. removal of ZP by enzymes/mechanical forces + virus incubation

Resistance of ZP+ embryos  
-> due to the presence of the ZP ?  
-> due to the resistance of embryonic cells ?



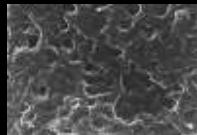
b. subzonal microinjection of viruses

## At what stages can embryos be infected ? ZP-



	ZP+	ZP-	ZP+	ZP-
	2-8 cells (0-4dpins)	morula (4-5dpins)	blastocyst (5-7dpins)	hatched blastocyst (>7dpins)
ADV	+	+	+	+
PPV	+	+	+	+
PCV2	+	+	+	+
PRRSV	-	-	-	- No receptor
PEV	?	?	?	+
CSFV	?	?	?	+

## Zona pellucida is an ideal barrier



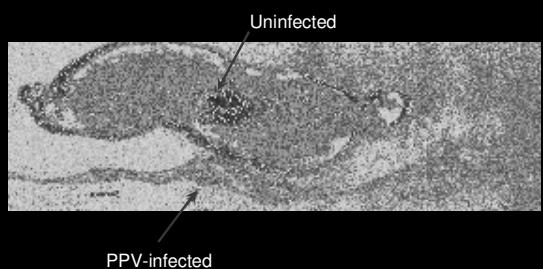
### 1° Physical barrier

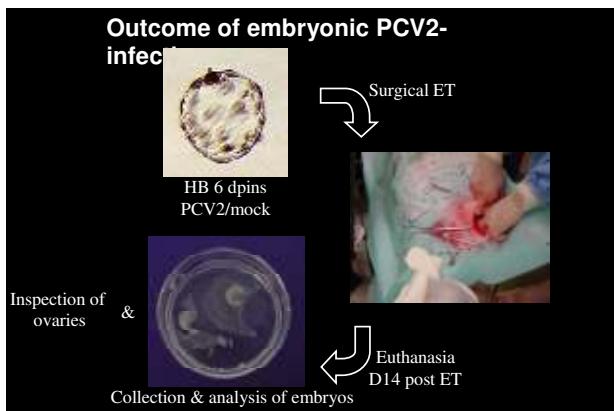
Channels in ZP :  $\pm 30$  nm (inner  $\phi$ )  
Viruses > 30nm (ADV, PRRSV, CSFV)

### 2° Chemical barrier

Viruses < 30nm (PPV, PCV2, PEV)

## Outcome of PPV-infection





**Outcome of embryonic PCV2-infection**

Sow n°	Embryos at transfer n°	Embryos at euthanasia			Ovaries
		normal	degenerated	n°	
A	status	19	19	0	CL
B	s	17	15	0	CL
C	26 mock	13	7	4	CL
D		3	0	3	CL
E	20	0	0	0	follicles
F	PCV	0	0	0	follicles
G	2	0	0	0	follicles
	23				
	PCV				
	2				
	20				
	PCV				
	2				
	IHC-PCV2				

mock normal embryo

PCV2 degenerated embryo

**Outcome of embryonic PCV2-infection**

Sow n°	Embryos at transfer n°	Embryos at euthanasia			Ovaries
		normal	degenerated	n°	
A	status	19	19	0	CL
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E	20	0	0	0	follicles
F	PCV	0	0	0	follicles
G	2	0	0	0	follicles
	23				
	PCV				
	2				
	20				
	PCV				
	2				
	IHC-PCV2				

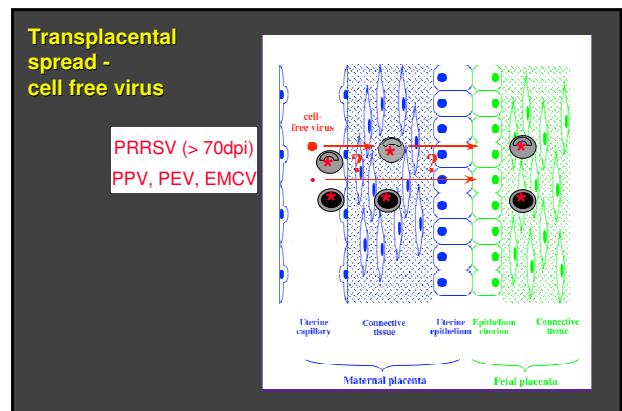
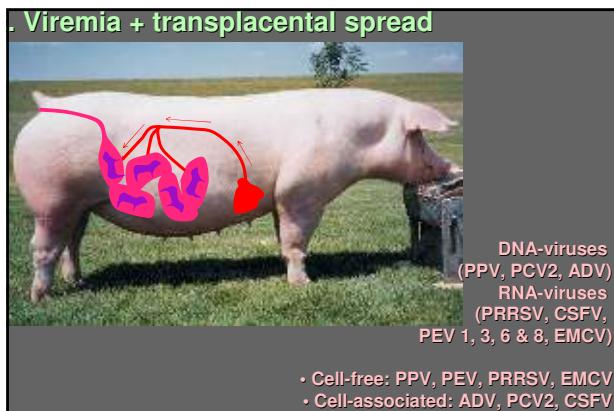
**Outcome of embryonic PCV2-infection**

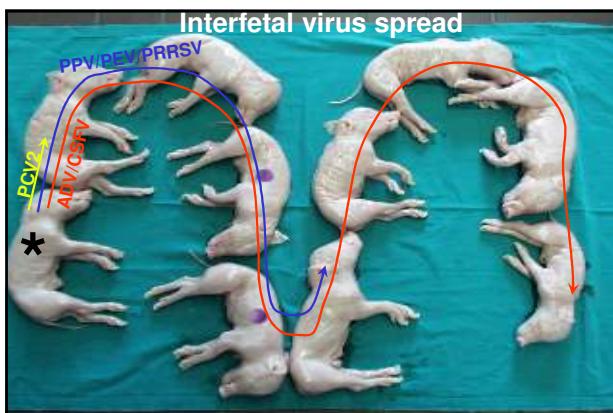
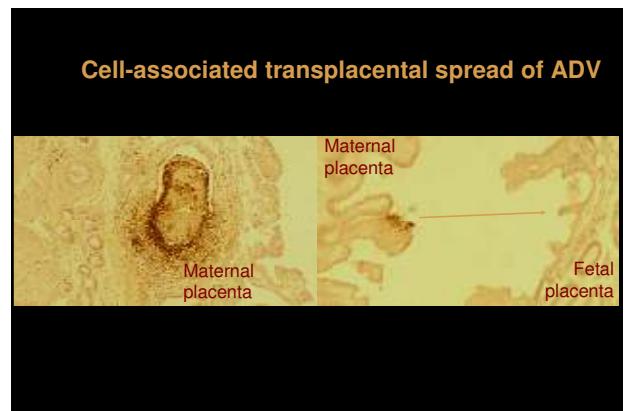
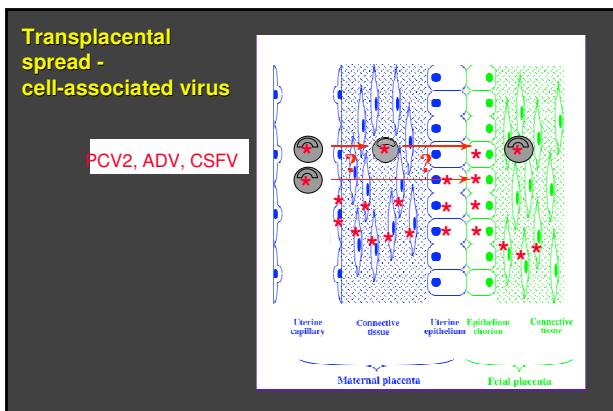
Sow n°	Embryos at transfer n°	Embryos at euthanasia			Ovaries
		normal	degenerated	n°	
A	status	19	19	0	CL
B	s	17	15	0	CL
C	26 mock	13	7	4	CL
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E	20	0	0	0	follicles
F	PCV	0	0	0	follicles
G	2	0	0	0	follicles
	23				
	PCV				
	2				
	20				
	PCV				
	2				
	IHC-PCV2				

PCV2 infection of embryos leads to

- embryonic death
- return to oestrous of sow

IHC-PCV2





**Clinical outcome - fetus**

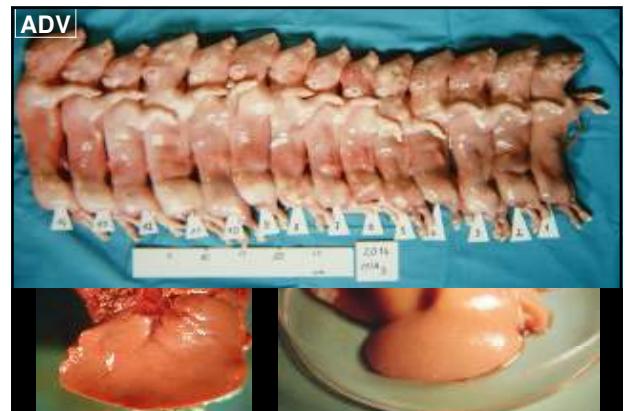
	Infection time (days of gestation)			
	0-30	30-60	60-90	90-113
ADV	repeat br.	abortion	abortion	abortion/msw
PPV	repeat br.	msw	msw	normal
PCV2	repeat br.	msw	msw	normal
PRRSV	-	-	late abortion/msw	late abortion/msw
PEV	repeat br.	msw	msw	normal
CSFV	repeat br.	abortion/msw	abortion/msw	abortion/msw

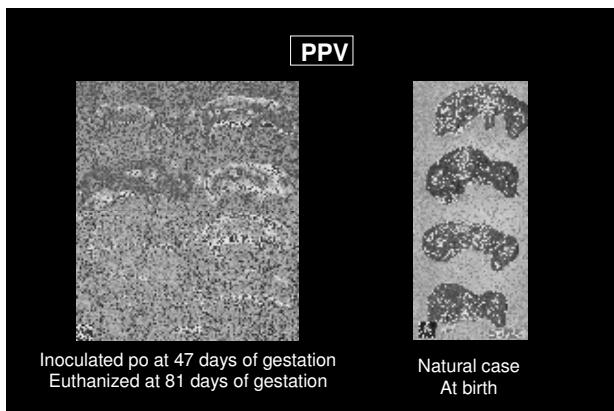
IR immune response  
IT immune tolerance

**Clinical outcome - sow**

	0-30	30-60	60-90	90-113
ADV	repeat br.	abortion	abortion	abortion/msw
PPV	repeat br.	msw	msw	normal
PCV2	repeat br.	msw	msw	normal
PRRSV	-	-	late abortion/msw	late abortion/msw
PEV	repeat br.	msw	msw	normal
CSFV	repeat br.	abortion/msw	abortion/msw	abortion/msw

msw: mummies, stillborn and weakborn piglets at birth





**PCV2**

Inoculated (days of gestation)	Aspect at birth	Virus	Abs	Intra-uterine spread	Interruption of gestation
57	mummified	+	-	+	-
75	stillborn autolytic	+	+	-	-
92	normal	+	+	-	-

mummified      autolytic      normal

