

conferred by milk in swine species. Antibodies of the IgA class have a privileged function in the passive protection of piglets against enteritis caused by these enteric agents. The other humoral components (lactoferrin, lysozyme, lactoperoxydase) are still unknown. Recent works have described the different cellular subsets in milk, but their respective roles in the immune protection of young piglets have not been well established. Kinetics of lymphocyte subpopulations and plasma-cells was studied recently in the mammary gland of primiparous sows in relation to pregnancy and lactation. The determinism of the migration of lymphocytes towards the mammary tissue is unknown. Condition of lactogenic immunity seems to depend on several important parameters :

- a) the properties of the enteric agent used as an antigen for immunization,
- b) the conditions of administration of this antigen to the pregnant sow,
- c) the physiological status of the sow at the time of antigen administration.

Identification of porcine epidemic diarrhoea (P.E.D.) in Brittany A clinical study

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Several cases of contagious gastro-enteritis were observed in Brittany during the winter 1981-1982. A study was made in 9 herds in which pigs suffered from digestive disorders. Faeces were collected and antibody kinetics studied in sick animals. No cases of transmissible gastroenteritis were found ; contrary to that Porcine Epidemic Diarrhoea (P.E.D.) virus was identified and a seroconversion observed in nearly all the tested sera. A clinical study was performed in these herds. Diarrhoea appeared in unweaned piglets in almost 50 p. 100 of the herds ; the intensity of the observed clinical signs and the piglet mortality rate varied in the different herds according to some parameters which are difficult to evaluate. In all cases, most of the breeding animals and bacon pigs were affected. The mortality conditions of some bacon pigs were discussed.

Porcine influenza in Brittany (Influenza HSW₁N₁)

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An outbreak of influenza occurred in Brittany (France) in december 1981 and the disease widely spread throughout the country until september 1982. Most of the herds were affected and the clinical signs were similar to those described in other countries. Illness