



R&D Snapshot

Reverse zoonoses affecting pigs, and the risk to Australian pig production. A critical review to direct risk assessment and management recommendations.

APL Project 2015/030

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Purpose:

- To determine reverse zoonotic (diseases transmitted from humans to pigs) risks and develop production recommendations.

Take home messages:

- Exotic viruses ranked highly but are not considered high risk. Downtime would be sensible for production people returning from high risk overseas areas.
- Influenza A is the highest ranking virus; risk management may include human vaccination, education and surveillance.
- Pork tapeworm (rare in Australia) is the highest ranking parasite. Risk management includes education, facilities maintenance and offering treatment to workers returning from areas where pork tapeworm is endemic.
- *E. coli*, MRSA, *S. suis* and *Salmonella* sp. are highly ranked and risks can be managed similarly:
 - The major pathways for entry into a herd are via people, water and feed supply;
 - An education campaign for production staff about transmission risks of these organisms; and
 - Sanitation of incoming water and good personal hygiene are important to minimise transmission.

Additional information:

- Contact Pat Mitchell at pat.mitchell@australianpork.com.au or 03 5488 2306 to further discuss.

