

DR. A.P.'s CORNER

PERSONNEL TRANSMISSION OF PEDv- What Biosecurity Interventions Work?

Recent data from the University of Minnesota Swine Disease Eradication Center has looked at the role people play in carrying PEDv on their body, coveralls, gloves and boots. Researchers were in contact with PED positive pigs for 45 minutes and then moved to a room with negative pigs. Depending on the biosecurity level, different protocols were done to see if the spread of PEDv could be prevented. The study was set up as follows:

Biosecurity Level	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH
Moving from PED Positive pigs to PED Negative pigs	No change of coveralls, boots or gloves	Personnel washed their face and hands, changed coveralls, boots and gloves	Personnel took a shower and changed coveralls and boots

Regardless of the biosecurity level, researchers took swabs of their face/hair, coveralls, boots and gloves after the biosecurity protocol was complete and before going into the room with negative pigs.

The results were as follows:

Biosecurity Level	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH
Personnel Swabs	Coveralls: 100% POS Hands: 93% POS Boots: 100% POS Face/Hair: 66% POS	Coveralls: ALL NEG Hands: ALL NEG Boots: ALL NEG Face/Hair: 15% POS	Coveralls: ALL NEG Hands: ALL NEG Boots: ALL NEG Face/Hair: ALL NEG
PED Negative Pigs Infected	POS pigs after 1 day of movement	ALL Pigs NEGATIVE	ALL Pigs NEGATIVE

To Summarize:

-Spread of PEDv was shown with no change of boots, coveralls or gloves. Pigs were positive within 1 day of contact with contaminated personnel.

-Biosecurity measures that include a change of coveralls, boots and gloves, plus washing the face or a shower did prevent spreading PEDv to negative pigs.