

***Toxoplasma gondii* infection in Swedish wild boars**

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Toxoplasma gondii is a common intracellular protozoan parasite of both animals and humans in Sweden. In Europe, approximately half of the infections in humans are estimated being attributed to consumption of undercooked meat from infected animals. Moreover, in both 2007 and 2011 *T. gondii* was ranked by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) as a significant disease causing agent in Europe, which should be monitored in domestic food producing animals as well as in game such as wild boars. The Swedish wild boar population has increased dramatically in recent years, with a corresponding increase in consumption of wild boar meat. The present study investigates the prevalence of antibodies to *T. gondii* in Swedish wild boars, with a perspective of improving the risk management of *T. gondii* as a food-borne infection from wild boar meat. During 2001-2011, serum samples from hunted wild boars were collected as part of a surveillance program for infectious diseases organized by the National Veterinary Institute, Uppsala, Sweden. The animals originate from most parts of the country but the majority are from the southern parts corresponding to the distribution of wild boars in Sweden. A total of 1209 serum samples will be analysed for antibodies to *T. gondii* by an in-house ELISA. The current prevalence will be calculated and a trend analysis will be performed to evaluate changes in prevalence over time. The serum samples are currently being analysed, and for that reason no results are presented in this abstract. The results will be presented and discussed at the conference.