Ileitis (PPE)

MSD Animal Health

Ileitis is a common and costly gastrointestinal disease. Also known as porcine proliferative enteropathy (PPE), it is caused by *Lawsonia intracellularis*, a bacterium that infects the intestinal tract.

Causing

- Diarrhea
- Intestinal bleeding
- Reduced feeding efficiency
- Impaired growth

Economic impact

In Europe, a cost associated with PPE of up to

5€ per pig has been estimated[1]

Economic losses are mainly due to the negative impact of PPE on:

- Average daily gain (ADG)
- Feed conversion rate (FCR)
- Mortality (acute outbreaks)
- Culling rates

Losses range from **US$5.98** to **US$17.34** per pig marketed in the finishing phase.

Average Daily Weight Gain
Can decrease by up to 38%
Time to slaughter increases.

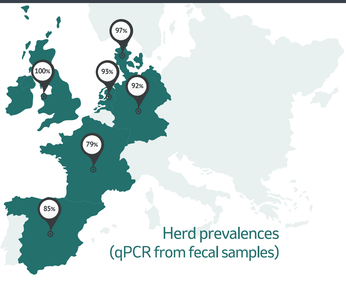
Feed Conversion Ratio
Can increase by up to 27%
Less weight gain **with the same consumption of feed.**

Mortality
Can increase by up to 24%
In the acute stage of the disease (pigs by the end of the fattening stage).

Subclinical ileitis can have up to **20.8% impact on ADG** and **20.4% impact on Feed Efficiency** over 6 weeks.

Prevalence

Between **80-100% of European farms** are infected with *Lawsonia intracellularis.*



Herd prevalences (qPCR from fecal samples)

Virtually all swine herds **are positive** for *Lawsonia intracellularis* infection.[2]

Diagnosis

Ileitis can be present **in acute, chronic and subclinical forms.**

Clinical signs of Ileitis can include:

- Pale / weak / thin pigs
- Diarrhoea / bloody scour
- Poor or irregular weight gain

Post-mortem examination can provide conclusive proof of infection:

- Intestinal wall thickening
- The presence of blood clots in intestinal lumen

Considering four important factors:

- Performance records
- Gross evaluation of intestinal lesions
- Clinical signs
- Laboratory testing

Treatment and prevention

The 3 key aspects for Ileitis prevention:

- Rodent control
- Cleaning and disinfection
- Biosecurity

Vaccination is an effective way to control Ileitis:

- Reduce bacterial shedding
- Helps reduce the spread of bacteria
- Reduces lesions
- Improves weight gain

Improved management and biosecurity usually **help prevent Ileitis outbreaks**

1. McOrist 2005; Veenhuizen 2002
2. Guedes R. 2018

MSD Animal Health