PEDV in the US: Overview, history and lessons

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Outline of presentation

• PEDV – what we know about it
• History of introduction into the U.S.
• How and why it spread in the U.S.
• Lessons
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Porcine epidemic diarrhea virus (PEDV)

• Member of the Coronaviridae family ("Coronavirus") of viruses – same as TGEV
Not an “emerging” virus

- **1971**: First observed in feeder and fattening pigs in England (1971)

- **1982**: Named porcine epidemic diarrhea virus (PEDV)

- **1970s and 1980s**: Widespread epidemics and severe losses in suckling piglets in Europe
  - Now rare in Europe with occasional epidemics like the one in Italy in 2005-2006

- **1982**: First reported in Asia

- **1990s and 2000s**: Widespread epidemics and severe losses in Asia and continues to be a major problem
In Asia

- Sporadic outbreaks during the winter
  - Not reported to be a major problem in the summer
- Characterized by watery diarrhea
- Resembles transmissible gastroenteritis (TGE)
Clinical impact is primarily in suckling pigs

- Incubation period is very short (12-36 hours)
- Mortality rate in suckling pigs in a immunologically naïve herd in the 30-100% range
  - Usually most severe in first 2 to 4 weeks following the outbreak
- Pigs shed copious amounts of virus
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In the U.S.

- First case of PEDV was submitted to Iowa State University Vet Diagnostic Lab (ISUVDL) on April 29, 2013
- Initially thought to be transmissible gastroenteritis (TGE)
- Persistence of staff at ISUVDL led to confirmation of PEDV on May 17, 2013
- Retrospective testing of submissions that were saved found positive samples back to mid-April 2013, on a growing pig site in Ohio
Likely came from China

- Most closely related to virus isolate in Anhui Province in China
- Has some genetic features that are same as a coronavirus found in bats
  - Suggests virus strain that is now in U.S. may have originated from bats and crossed species

And again!

• Second introduction from China

• Prior to January, 2014 all PEDV sequences (S1 region of the virus) were within 99-100% similar

• In late January, 2014 5 viruses were sequenced that were very different
  – Only 93.9-94.6% similar to the previous viruses
  – Closely matched a virus in the international database that was found in China
  – PEDV variants were retrospectively detected in US swine at least from early May 16, 2013
And again!!

- Deltacoronavirus first detected in Ohio
  - Feb 2014
- Distinct from PED and TGE viruses
  - Similar but less severe – mortality is lower
- Designated as porcine deltacoronavirus (PDCoV)
- Closely related to a coronavirus found in Hong Kong in 2012
Federal Order and Reporting Information for Swine Enteric Coronavirus Disease (SECD)

- USDA issued a Federal Order on **June 5, 2014** (~14 months after introduction of the virus).

- Two basic requirements of the Federal Order:
  - **Mandatory reporting** - Producers, veterinarians, and diagnostic laboratories are required to report all cases of novel SECD to USDA or State animal health officials.
  - **Herd management plan** - Develop a plan to address the detected virus and prevent its spread.
Federal Order and Reporting Information

- For more information:

Prior to the Federal Order it was difficult to track the disease incidence and spread

- NAHLN data
  - Reporting of positive accessions by 10 participating diagnostic labs
  - Many problems
    - Type of farm (breeding or growing pigs) not always reported
    - Submission of samples for diagnostics may not be done for every outbreak – not counted
    - More than one diagnostic submission may be reported for same farm for ongoing monitoring purposes
What was being reported by NAHLN

Source: USDA APHIS VS NVSL National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN), May 19, 2014
And the consequences of bad information

- $33 move
- $18 move

January, 2014
Now USDA is using information from the NAHLN labs (with PINs) and the mandatory reporting

What is a PIN?
- Premises identification number (7 characters)
- Part of the National Animal Identification System (NAIS)

Economic impact

- PED is not a World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) reportable disease and is not considered a foreign animal disease by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)
  - Has not affected export markets
  - No quarantines or movement controls
Economic impact

It is **not** a public health concern

- Only infectious to swine
- Is NOT a food safety concern
  - **No apparent impact on demand for pork**
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Production in the US. is geographically segregated

- Still have some old single site “farrow-to-finish” sites
- Anything built new in the last 25 years will be multi-site (ie. production is geographically segregated)
- Most common model today is a 2 site model
  1. Farrow-to-wean
  2. Wean-to-finish
Production is geographically segregated

2 site model

Sow farm

Weaned pig (~12 lbs @ 3 weeks of age)
Production is geographically segregated and specialized.
Geographic segregation and specialization are efficient BUT... 

Pigs are concentrated in Midwest and North Carolina
What a pig dense area looks like

Hwy 20
1-35
Herd size has increased - Large herds are big targets
Given the structure and organization of the pork industry, biosecurity and surveillance as currently practiced in the U.S. was NOT effective at slowing the spread of the virus.

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PEDV was a GENTLE reminder of how unprepared we are for:

- Reportable foreign animal diseases
- Emerging diseases like porcine circovirus type 2 (PCV2)
- New introduction of transboundary diseases like PEDV

- What else could have come from China?
  - Foot and mouth disease virus (FMDV)
  - Classical swine fever virus (CSFV)
  - Pseudorabies virus (PRV)
Plan in place - who does what

• Immediately after the confirmation of PEDV in the U.S. there was a lot of confusion and finger-pointing about who was (or should) do what
  – USDA
    • Federal Order requiring mandatory reporting was issued 14 months after introduction of the virus
  – Producers
    • National Pork Board (NPB)
    • National Pork Producers Council (NPPC)
  – American Association of Swine Veterinarians (AASV)
• Need to pay more attention to potential threats worldwide
  – Too many swine veterinarians were not aware that PEDV existed until it was in the U.S.
Surveillance

• Early detection
  – By the time the arrival of PEDV in the U.S. was confirmed and announced on May 18, 2013, there were 31 cases
    • Determined by retrospectively testing submitted samples
  – 74 cases 3 days later

• More coordinated diagnostics to potentially contain an epidemic or to monitor its progress
  – Information management systems
    • Premises ID numbers (PIN)
    • Electronic diagnostic submissions
Need better diagnostics, vaccines and vaccine technologies

- Development of diagnostics for PEDV was rapid but all of the tests available at diagnostic labs in the U.S. were developed after May 2013
- Currently 2 conditionally licensed vaccines in the U.S.
  - Harris Vaccines
    - First to market
    - Granted a conditional license in June of 2014 (19 months after the introduction of the virus in the U.S.)
  - Zoetis
Need to improve biosecurity and rethink how production is organized

• Risk Assessment
  – Production Animal Disease Risk Assessment Program
• Outbreak investigations
  – NPB rapid response teams
Questions

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