

## **Preputial cellular and antibody responses of bulls vaccinated and/or challenged with *Tritrichomonas foetus*.**

[Cobo ER](#)<sup>1</sup>, [Corbell LB](#), [Gershwin LJ](#), [BonDurant RH](#).

### **⊕ Author information**

#### **Abstract**

Systemic and genital immune responses in bulls were determined after infection with *Tritrichomonas foetus* and systemic vaccination with whole cell antigens. Vaccinated bulls resisted infection, developed IgG1 and IgG2 antibodies against *T. foetus* in preputial secretions and serum, and had increased MHC II(+) and CD205(+) cells (probably dendritic cells), CD3(+) and CD8(+) T cells, and B cells including IgG1 and IgA plasma cells in the prepuce. Non-vaccinated bulls challenged with *T. foetus* were persistently infected and had no detectable antibodies to *T. foetus* in either preputial secretions or serum for 6 weeks post challenge. We conclude that genital and serum IgG antibodies to *T. foetus* accounts for resistance of vaccinated bulls to *T. foetus* infection and that the lack of an antibody response in infected bulls accounts for persistent infection.