



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

Surveillance undertaken for pig pathogens in Government-subsidised diagnostic submissions

Table 1 lists pig pathogens for which there is routine surveillance screening in place at APHA, utilising material from diagnostic submissions to APHA Veterinary Investigation Centres and APHA's surveillance pathology partners dealt with by surveillance pathology vets.

When using Government-subsidised testing, the submitting veterinary practitioner needs to decide whether they consent to this routine surveillance screening. This is by the submitting veterinary practitioner ticking the appropriate box on the [APHA pig submission form](#), or during triage with the surveillance pathology vet for post-mortem examinations.

Testing to screen for the listed pathogens is an important component of surveillance and helps protect the pig industry through:

- Provision of evidence of country freedom from a disease where this is applicable. This is vital for international trade and maintaining robust surveillance. It also enables early detection and helps protect the national livestock population.
- Detection of potential new and emerging threats, which may include exotic pathogens (porcine enteric coronaviruses), new strains of endemic pathogens and/or concerning changes in diseases (e.g. porcine circoviruses).

If screening results are not negative following testing for a notifiable disease (apart from porcine epidemic diarrhoea), an official APHA veterinary investigation is undertaken to rule the notifiable disease out or confirm its presence. This work safeguards the health of the nation's livestock.

One of the main [roles of the APHA Species Expert Groups and scanning surveillance](#) is prompt detection and characterisation of potential new and emerging threats and [findings from scanning surveillance are regularly reported](#).

Table 1: Pig pathogens for which there is routine surveillance screening in place at APHA.

Pathogen	Animal species affected	Statutory status	GB infection status	Scanning surveillance samples used	Carcase or non-carcase submissions sampled
African swine fever virus	Pigs and other suids	Notifiable	Free	Spleen, Lymph node from pigs found dead or pig deaths described on premises	Carcase
Porcine epidemic diarrhoea virus	Pigs and other suids	Notifiable	Last diagnosis recorded in 2002	Intestinal/faecal from pigs with diarrhoea or enteropathy	Both
Transmissible gastroenteritis virus	Pigs and other suids	Non-notifiable	Last diagnosis recorded in 1999	Intestinal/faecal from pigs with diarrhoea or enteropathy	Both
Porcine deltacoronavirus	Pigs and other suids	Non-notifiable, exotic	Not detected	Intestinal/faecal from pigs with diarrhoea or enteropathy	Both
Aujeszky's disease virus	Pigs and other suids	Notifiable	Free	Clotted bloods from any age and presentation	Both (live pigs only)
<i>Brucella suis</i>	Pigs and other suids (+ wild hares)	Reportable (brucellosis notifiable)	Free	Foetal, musculoskeletal from foetopathies and infectious musculoskeletal disease	Both
Porcine circoviral disease (PCV2 and PCV3)	Pigs and other suids	Non-notifiable	Endemic	Heart from any age and presentation	Carcase