Enteritis Caused by *Pasteurella pneumotropica* Infection in Hamsters

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*Pasteurella pneumotropica* was isolated in essentially pure cultures from the bowels of hamsters with enteritis 7 days after parturition. Newly received hamsters showed presence of *P. pneumotropica* in their nasal cavities but not in their uteri, lungs, spleens, or bowels.

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**TABLE 1. Incidence of *P. pneumotropica***

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site of isolation</th>
<th>No. of hamsters (no. tested/no. positive)</th>
<th>Carrying <em>P. pneumotropica</em></th>
<th>With enteritis</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nasal cavity</td>
<td>10/100</td>
<td>11/11</td>
<td>11/11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bowel</td>
<td>0/2</td>
<td>11/11</td>
<td>11/11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lungs</td>
<td>0/2</td>
<td>0/11</td>
<td>0/11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spleen</td>
<td>0/2</td>
<td>0/11</td>
<td>0/11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uterus</td>
<td>0/2</td>
<td>0/11</td>
<td>0/11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Total received, 50; all were clinically healthy.
* Randomly sampled nasal swabs.
1. From randomly sampled nasal swabs for tissue isolation.

infection in a variety of animal species is well documented (1, 2, 5–7). Our report describes a first occurrence of this infection in hamsters. Because this bacterium was carried in the nasal cavity before illness, transmission to the gastrointestinal tract was probable. This mode of transmission was suggested by Blackmore and Casillo (1) for an incidence of uterine infection caused by *P. pneumotropica*.

**LITERATURE CITED**


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