# Caecal microbiota changes in an intestinal leakage model in broilers

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#### Intestinal health





Identification of bacterial shifts in a developed in vivo model for gut damage



Aims

## What is the effect of predisposing factors on intestinal health?

D1	D12	D12-D17	D18-D20	D19	D26
Starter mash	Wheat (57,5%) based diet supplemented with rye (5%)	Antibiotic challenge	Bacterial challenge → E. coli → C. perfringens	Coccidiosis challenge → Eimeria acervulina → Eimeria maxima	Necropsy→Macroscopic scoring→Histology→16S sequencing
Contro	l group	•			
Challenge group					
					1) <i>In vivo</i> model









Decreased body weight



Increased feed conversion ratio

1) In vivo model



#### Macroscopic lesion scoring







Abnormal content



\* cranial & caudal of Meckel's diverticulum



Thickness\*



Tonus"

Teirlynck et al., 2012

#### Johnson & Reid (1970)

- E. acervulina
- E. maxima
- E. tenella

scored 0 (absent) to 4 (severe)
→ total score = sum







## Morphology of duodenum

challenged

3 per replicate 9 replicates 2 treatments





0

control

Increased crypt depth





Control

Challenge

1) In vivo model



## 2 Identification of microbial markers





#### **16S sequencing**



## Alpha diversity measurements

3 per replicate 9 replicates 2 treatments





Decreased species diversity & richness

2) Caecal microbiota













2) Caecal microbiota



3.6

4.8

### Conclusion

### **1** Effects of predisposing factors on intestinal health

- Lower body weight & higher feed conversion ratio
- Worse gut condition
  - Less nutrient absorption and higher inflammation level
    - *In vivo* model can be used as tool to evaluate intestinal damage

2 Identification of microbial populations which describe condition of the gut

## Thank you!



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AGENTSCHAP INNOVEREN & ONDERNEMEN