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Statistics of meat inspection: How to standardise the assessment of ante-mortem and post-mortem inspection of pigs nationwide? - Development of an educational concept for Germany

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communication at each step and the inclusion of all available experts are expected to allow for an overall acceptance. The actual impact will be visible in the coming years.

Introduction

The evaluation of slaughter animals, carcasses and offal is a central task of the official ante-mortem and post-mortem inspection. The assessment is biased for several reasons: individual, administrative, or organisational. The data collected are of particular relevance to the food business operator, the competent authority, and the official meat inspection statistics. Consequently, a valid data collection by the competent authority requires quality control and quality assurance.

The aim of this project is the development of an innovative educational concept for the standardised assessment of pigs all over Germany.

Material and Methods

The focus is on creating digital teaching and training material (videos and eBooks) to recognise selected clinical findings, and to grade them as far as possible. These findings are relevant for animal health, meat safety, or animal welfare. The primary target groups are official veterinarians and official auxiliaries, followed by students of veterinary medicine. The raw material was recorded in two German pig abattoirs in 2018 and edited with Adobe® CC software. In 2019, the teaching material was provided for a first review exercise to the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture, other federal institutions, the veterinary authorities of the federal states, and the universities/faculties of veterinary medicine. The revisions were discussed by an expert panel and approved by expert representatives of the federal states. The final teaching material will be distributed to all relevant institutions for implementation into their own didactic structures.

Discussion and Conclusion

Deviations among reviews demonstrate some heterogeneity in assessment and, hence, support the need for a nationwide standardisation. The extended