**Gallibacterium anatis of poultry in China: a review**

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Gallibacterium anatis (G. anatis), belonging to genus Gallibacterium in the family Pasteurellaceae, is a major cause of salpingitis and peritonitis in hens. The identification of G. anatis isolated from Chinese flocks was first reported in 2008. Since then, a series of studies on epidemiology, biological characteristics, diagnostic methods, molecular typing and pathogenicity of G. anatis have been conducted by researchers in China, mainly in the authors’ lab. The results demonstrated that Chinese chickens of different breeds, age and health status are widely infected with G. anatis. All the examined flocks are infected with more than two biotypes simultaneously. Horizontal transmission plays a major role in the transmission of G. anatis among birds, but trans-ovarian transmission among Chinese flocks has not been found so far. Chickens infected with G. anatis are able to reproduce and excrete the bacteria for a long time. G. anatis strains from Chinese flocks are divided into a haemolytic biovar, haemolytica, and a non-haemolytic biovar, anatis. The majority of Gallibacterium species in China are G. anatis; they are able to form a dense biofilm in vitro. The same diseases as natural cases caused by G. anatis have been reproduced experimentally in SPF layers in intraperitoneal injection model. G. anatis infection in layers causes pathological changes such as salpingitis and oophoritis, leads to a 2-week delay in date of the first egg, and lower egg production and quantity. Multidrug resistance is highly prevalent in the G. anatis field isolates. The phenotype is correlated with resistance determinants and integrase genes.