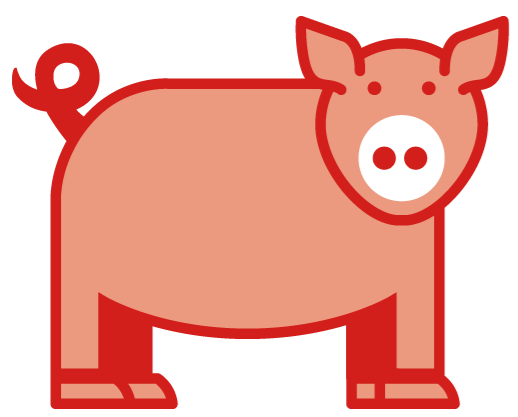




Herd-factors and *E. coli* AMR patterns in Swedish pigs

Aim: To investigate associations between herd-factors and AMR in *Escherichia coli* causing diarrhoea in Swedish pigs

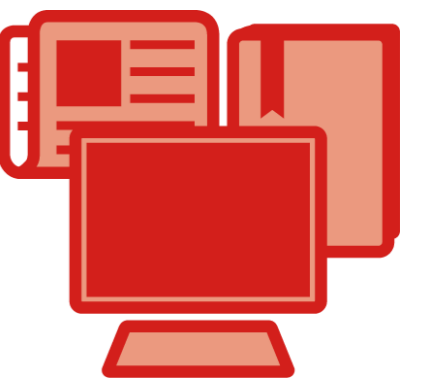


Herd information was collected via a questionnaire performed by the farm veterinarian. Sampling material was given to the farmers with instructions to collect samples from their next case of piglet diarrhoea and their next case of weaning diarrhoea. Samples were cultured and *E. coli* strains were tested for hemolysis, enterotoxin production and antimicrobial resistances.

DATA

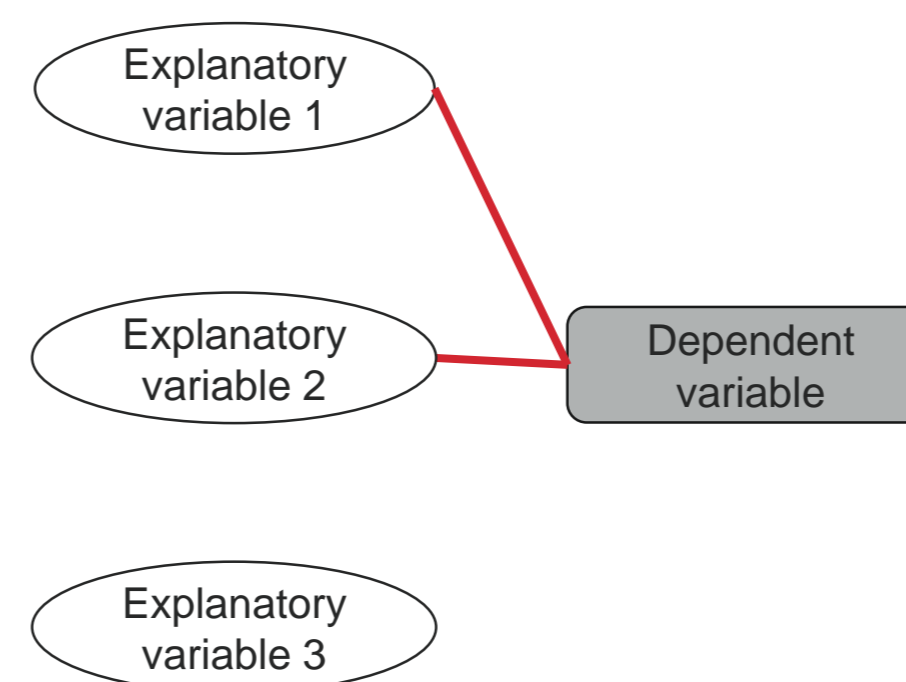
| | Response alternatives | Proportion | |
|---|--|---|------------|
| Explanatory variables Questionnaire data (n=83) | Addition of high dose ZnO to the feed? | | |
| | Ongoing | 0,41 | |
| | During the past year | 0,02 | |
| | More than one year ago | 0,19 | |
| | Never | 0,37 | |
| | First choice antibiotic for piglet diarrhoea? | Trim-Sulfa | 0,58 |
| | | Ampicillin | 0,12 |
| | | Penicillin | 0,05 |
| | | Enrofloxacin | 0,01 |
| | | Other | 0,24 |
| | First choice antibiotic for weaning diarrhoea? | Trim-Sulfa | 0,73 |
| | | Kolistin | 0,05 |
| | | Neomycin | 0,01 |
| | | Other | 0,20 |
| | | First choice antibiotic for post-farrowing treatment? | Trim-Sulfa |
| Penicillin | 0,20 | | |
| Other | 0,10 | | |
| Estimated proportion of sows receiving antibiotic treatment within the first week after farrowing? ⁴ | <10% | 0,30 | |
| | 10-19% | 0,45 | |
| | 20-29% | 0,19 | |
| | ≥30% | 0,06 | |
| Sample data (n=158) | Type of diarrhoea | | |
| | Piglet diarrhoea | 0,54 | |
| | Weaning diarrhoea | 0,46 | |
| | Dependent variables <i>E. coli</i> isolate properties (n=158) | Diarrhoea treated w. antibiotics | 0,03 |
| | | Hemolysis | 0,16 |
| | | Enterotoxins produced | 0,25 |
| | | Growth in Nalidixin | 0,36 |
| | | Ampicillin resistance | 0,30 |
| | | Cefotaxim resistance | 0,00 |
| | | Colistin resistance | 0,03 |
| | | Enrofloxacin resistance | 0,08 |
| | | Gentamicin resistance | 0,00 |
| | | Neomycin resistance | 0,05 |
| | | Nitrofurantoin resistance | 0,00 |
| | | Streptomycin resistance | 0,37 |
| Tetracycline resistance | | 0,18 | |
| Trimethoprim-Sulfonamide resistance | | 0,32 | |

METHODS



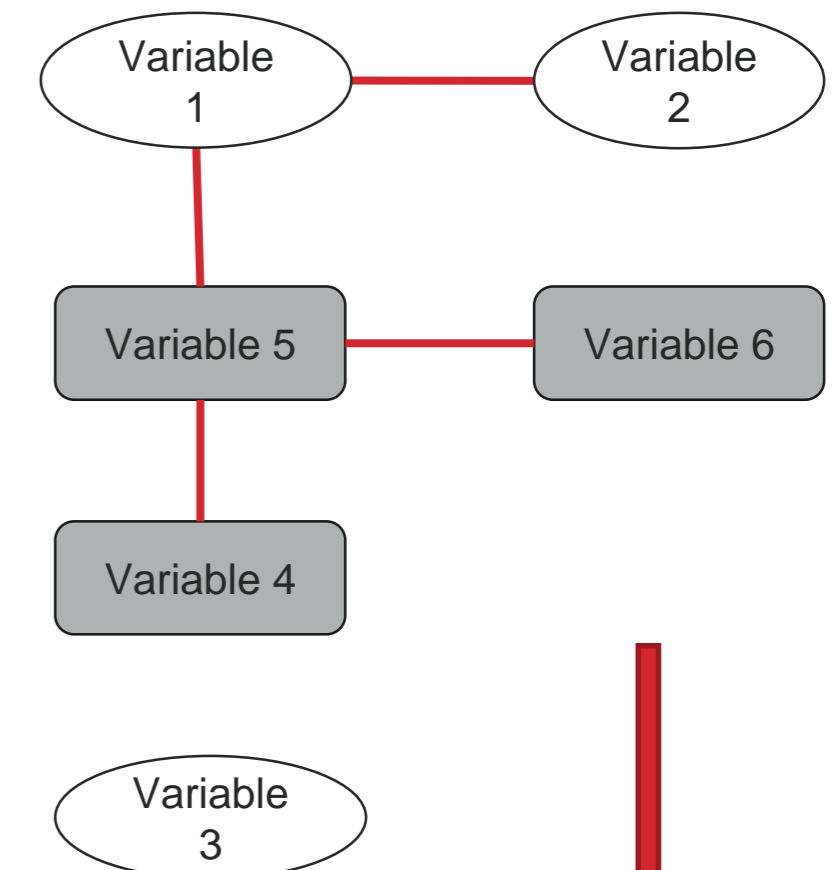
Regression analysis

Multivariable method investigating associations between several explanatory variables and one dependent variable at a time.



ABN - Additive Bayesian Network modelling

Multivariate method investigating associations between all variables, including several explanatory as well as several dependent variables.



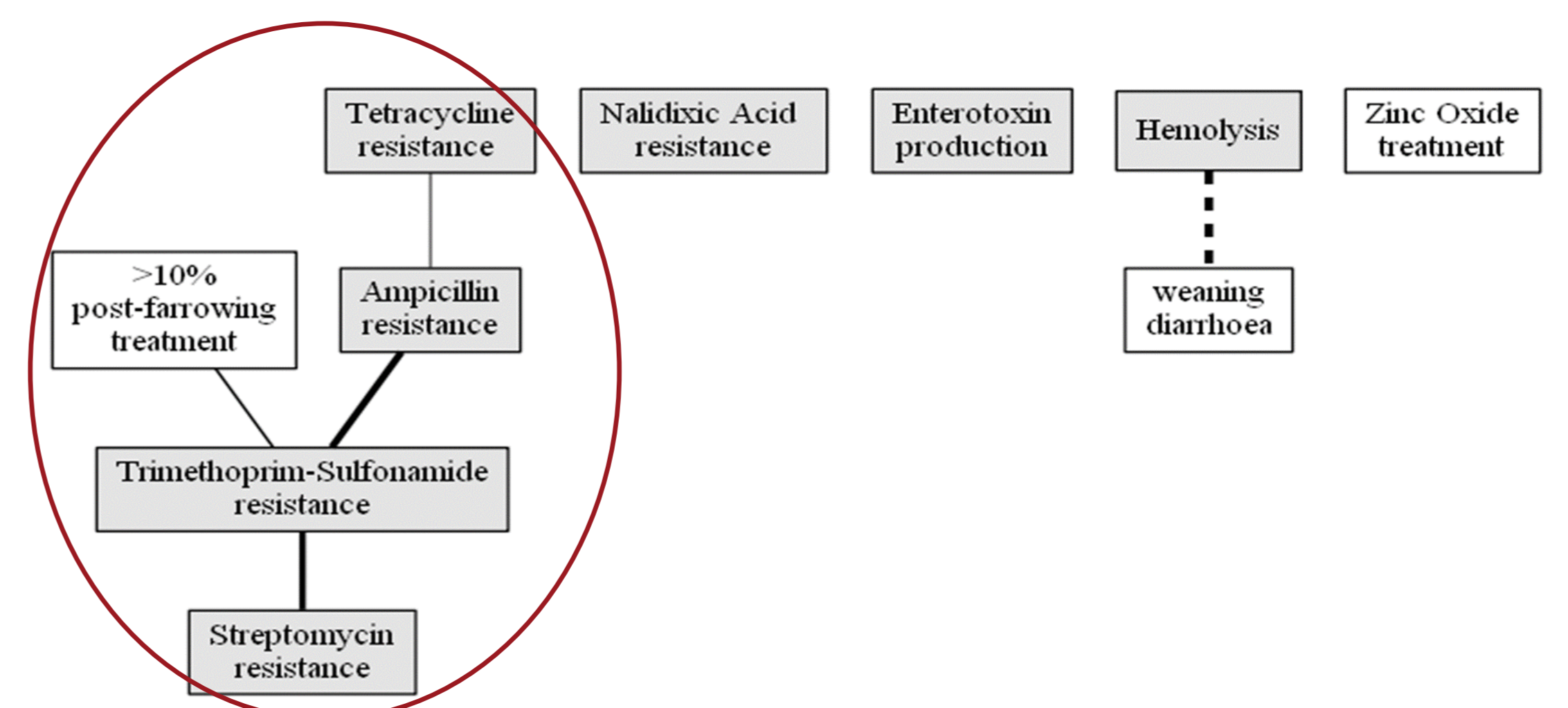
RESULTS REGRESSION

| Random effect variable | Variance |
|------------------------|----------|
| Herd | < 0.0001 |

| Fixed effect variables | Category | OR | 95% CI | P>z |
|---|-------------------|-----|----------|-------|
| Estimated proportion of sows receiving antibiotic treatment within the first week after farrowing | <10% | Ref | | |
| | 10-19% | 3.6 | 1.2-10.8 | 0.023 |
| | 20-29% | 5.8 | 1.7-20.0 | 0.005 |
| | ≥30% | 5.9 | 1.1-31.0 | 0.035 |
| Type of diarrhoea | Weaning diarrhoea | Ref | | |
| | Piglet diarrhoea | 2.7 | 1.2-6.1 | 0.019 |

- *E. coli* isolates were more likely to be resistant to trimethoprim-sulfonamide (TS) when collected in herds with a higher proportion of sows receiving post-farrowing antibiotic treatment (note that TS was used as first choice antibiotics for post-farrowing treatment in 70% of the herds (see data table)).
- *E. coli* isolates were more likely to be resistant to TS in piglets with diarrhoea, compared to pigs with weaning diarrhoea.
- There was no clustering of TS resistance at herd level.
- None of the other explanatory variables showed significant association to TS resistance of isolates.

RESULTS ABN



Lines indicate associations, thickness of lines is proportional to link strength.

- Trimethoprim-Sulfonamide (TS) resistance was directly associated to proportion of sows receiving post-farrowing antibiotic treatment.
- TS resistance was also directly associated to ampicillin and streptomycin resistance, and ampicillin was also directly associated to tetracycline resistance.
- There were no isolates with hemolysis from piglets with weaning diarrhoea (negative direct association between these variables).

CONCLUSIONS

Trimethoprim-sulfonamide (TS) treatment drives resistance to TS in *E. coli* causing diarrhoea in pigs. By co-selection, it also drives development of resistance to other antibiotics.