

# Bivirkninger som følge av vaksinerings av laks

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## Vaccine-associated granulomatous inflammation and melanin accumulation in Atlantic salmon, *Salmo salar* L., white muscle

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### Abstract

The purpose of this study was to investigate the nature of variably sized pigmented foci encountered in fillets of farmed Atlantic salmon, *Salmo salar* L. The material was sampled on the fillet production line and on salmon farms from fish with an average size of 3 kg from various producers. The fish had been routinely vaccinated by injection. Gross pathology, histology, immunohistochemistry using antisera against major histocompatibility complex (MHC) class II  $\beta$  chain and transmission electron microscopy (TEM) were used to characterize the changes. Macroscopically, melanized foci were seen penetrating from the peritoneum deep into the abdominal wall, sometimes right through to the skin, and also embedded in the caudal musculature. Histological investigation revealed muscle degeneration and necrosis, fibrosis and granulomatous inflammation containing varying numbers of melano-macrophages. Vacuoles, either empty or containing heterogeneous material, were frequently seen. The presence of abundant MHC class II<sup>+</sup> cells indicated an active inflammatory condition. TEM showed large extracellular vacuoles and leucocytes containing homogeneous material of lipid-like appearance. The results showed that the melanized foci in Atlantic salmon fillet resulted from an inflammatory condition probably induced by vaccination. The described condition is not known in wild salmon and in farmed salmon where injection vaccination is not applied.

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**Keywords:** Atlantic salmon, inflammation, melano-macrophage, major histocompatibility complex class II, mineral oil, vaccine.

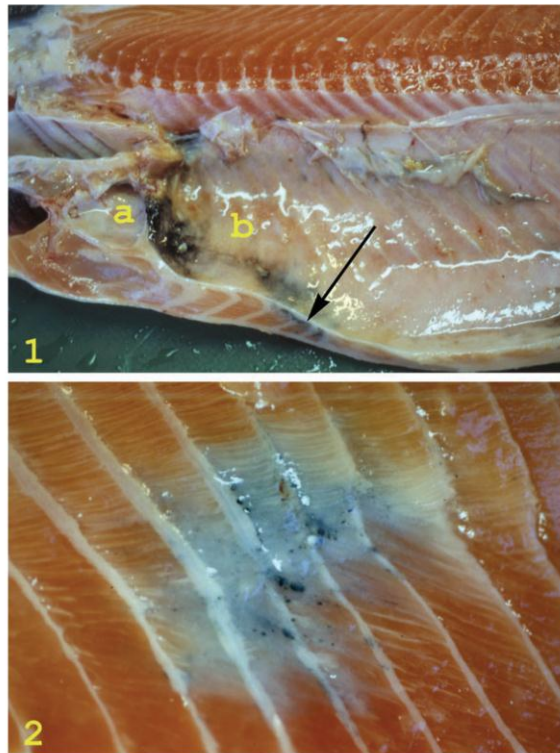
### Introduction

Various pathological conditions may be associated with abnormal pigmentation in tissues and organs. Such pigments may either be of exogenous or endogenous origin. Endogenous pigments include derivatives of lipids, haemoglobin, porphyrins and melanin. The term melanosis is used to describe the presence of melanin in abnormal locations (Thomson 1984). In vertebrates, melanin is synthesized by melanocytes and organized in melanosomes, which are lysosome-related intracellular organelles (Orlov 1995; Raposo, Fevrier, Stoorvogel & Marks 2002). Mammalian melanocytes originate from the embryonic neural tube (Salmón & Kitchell 2003) and it has been observed that such cells can migrate into inflamed tissue (Thomson 1984).

Inflammatory reactions and tissue regeneration in salmonids seem similar to those of mammals (Finn & Nielson 1971), but have in addition been associated with the involvement of so-called melano-macrophages (Roberts 1975; Agius & Roberts 2003). The origin of melanosomes in melanin-containing viscera located cells in fish is not clear (Agius & Roberts 2003), but Sichel, Scalia, Mondio & Corsaro (1997) suggested that melanogenesis in poikilothermic vertebrates may occur in mesenchyme-derived cells of the haematopoietic lineage. Although teleost melano-macrophages have been ascribed macrophage-like properties, their functions and significance are

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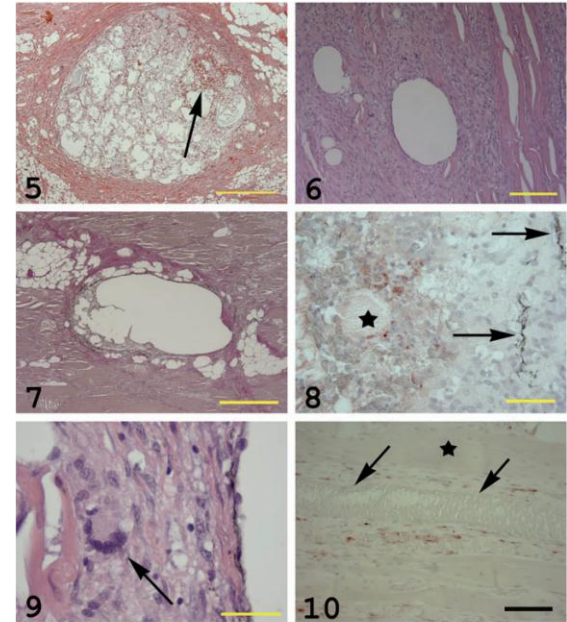


**Figure 1** Gross pathological changes in the carcass of an Atlantic salmon. The pericardial cavity (a) is normal, but severe melanization is apparent in the abdominal cavity (b). Melanized musculature subjacent to the peritoneum is seen on the cut surface (arrow).

**Figure 2** A melanized area in the musculature of an Atlantic salmon. The peritoneum is removed and darker foci are seen in a dark to grey area involving five myosepta. The lesion is situated laterally in the fish, covering the area of the lateral organ. Note the contraction in the musculature, disrupting the curves of the intramuscular septa.

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**Figure 5** A large vesicle embedded in an intermyotomal septum containing macrophage-like cells, debris and a fresh haemorrhage (arrow) (H&E, bar = 500  $\mu$ m).

**Figure 6** Empty vesicles surrounded by granulomatous tissue embedded in the white musculature. Note adjacent, seemingly unaffected muscle cells (H&E, bar = 200  $\mu$ m).

**Figure 7** Vesicles embedded in the white musculature surrounded by fibrogranulomatous tissue (red staining) (EVG, bar = 500  $\mu$ m).

**Figure 8** Reaction against oil (red staining) in a vesicle as shown in Fig. 5. Homogeneous masses (asterisk) and macrophage-like cells show positive reactions. Note the melano-macrophages in the vesicle wall (arrows) (oil red O, bar = 50  $\mu$ m).

**Figure 9** High magnification of the wall of a vesicle as seen in Fig. 6. The wall contains a multinucleated giant cell (MGC) (arrow), epithelioid-like cells, small vacuoles and is lined towards the lumen of the greater vesicle with melanosome-containing cells, probably swollen melano-macrophages (H&E, bar = 40  $\mu$ m).

**Figure 10** Muscle cells infiltrated with MHC class II<sup>+</sup> cells. One muscle cell is unaffected (asterisk). One fibre shows severe degeneration (arrowhead), whereas one is invaded by MHC class II<sup>+</sup> cells (red reaction) (MHC class II immunostain, haematoxylin counterstain, bar = 100  $\mu$ m).

## Induction of Lupus-associated Autoantibodies in BALB/c Mice by Intraperitoneal Injection of Pristane

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### Summary

Intraperitoneal injection of pristane (2,6,10,14 tetramethylpentadecane) is a standard technique for obtaining monoclonal antibody-enriched ascitic fluid. However, pristane also induces plasmacytomas and an erosive arthritis resembling rheumatoid arthritis in BALB/c mice, probably as a consequence of enhanced interleukin 6 production. We report here that the production of autoantibodies characteristic of systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) is a further consequence of injecting pristane in BALB/c mice. Anti-Su antibodies appeared as early as 1–2 mo after a single injection of 0.5 ml pristane, followed by anti-U1RNP and anti-Sm antibodies after 2–4 mo. Within 6 mo of pristane injection, 9 of 11 BALB/c mice had developed anti-Su, anti-U1RNP, anti-U2RNP, anti-Sm, and possibly anti-U5RNP antibodies. Autoantibodies were not produced by 20 BALB/c mice of the same age and sex that were not injected with pristane. Thus, autoantibodies characteristic of lupus were induced in mice that are not usually considered to be genetically susceptible to the disease. The induction of autoantibodies associated with SLE by pristane may be relevant to understanding the role of abnormal cytokine production in autoantibody production and the pathogenesis of autoimmune disease. Furthermore, the induction of high titer autoantibodies by pristane dictates caution in the use of ascitic fluid as a source of monoclonal antibodies, since the polyclonal autoantibodies induced by pristane may copurify with the monoclonal antibody secreted by an injected hybridoma.

Intraperitoneal administration of pristane (2,6,10,14 tetramethylpentadecane) before the injection of hybridoma cells is a standard technique for obtaining ascitic fluid containing a high concentration of mAbs. In addition to its effects on hybridoma cell growth, pristane-induced alterations in cytokine production have been implicated in the pathogenesis of plasmacytomas (1–3) and erosive arthritis resembling rheumatoid arthritis (4, 5). While characterizing a slowly growing murine hybridoma secreting an IgM mAb, we observed that ascitic fluid from several pristane-primed BALB/c mice injected with hybridoma cells contained polyclonal IgG autoantibodies to Su, U1RNP, U2RNP, and/or Sm. Further investigation revealed that the autoantibodies were a consequence of pristane priming itself, and were unrelated to the hybridoma cells or their secreted monoclonal IgM. Thus, intraperitoneal injection of pristane induced lupus-like autoimmunity in a strain of mouse not usually thought to be prone to autoimmune disease.

### Materials and Methods

**Cell Lines.** The K562 (human erythroleukemia) and L929 (murine fibroblast) cell lines were obtained from the American Type Culture Collection (ATCC; Rockville, MD) and maintained in

RPMI 1640 or MEM, respectively, supplemented with 9% FCS, L-glutamine, and penicillin/streptomycin.

**Sera and mAbs.** Prototype human autoimmune sera containing anti-Su, anti-U1RNP, anti-Sm, or other specificities, were reported previously (6–8). Additional sera with anti-U1RNP/Sm antibodies were obtained from patients with systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) followed at the University of North Carolina Hospitals (Chapel Hill, NC) or the Keio University Hospital (Tokyo, Japan). Murine mAbs 2.73 (anti-U1-70K) (9), and 9A9 (anti-U1-A and U2-B)<sup>†</sup> (10) were provided by Dr. Yoshihiko Takeda (Medical College of Georgia, Augusta, GA) and Dr. W.J. van Venrooij (University of Nijmegen, The Netherlands), respectively. mAbs Y2 (anti-Sm B/B and D) (11), 22G12 (anti-Sm B/B) (12), and 2G7 (anti-Sm-D) (13) were provided by Dr. Robert A. Eisenberg (University of North Carolina).

**Pristane Priming.** 6–8-wk-old female BALB/c ByJ mice were obtained from The Jackson Laboratory (Bar Harbor, ME) and maintained at our animal facility. Eleven mice, ages 4–5 mo, received a single intraperitoneal injection of 0.5 ml of pristane (Sigma Chemical Co., St. Louis, MO). Sera were collected every 4 wk from the tail vein. 20 age- and sex-matched BALB/c ByJ mice that were not injected with pristane served as controls.

**Immunoprecipitation.** Immunoprecipitation using cell extract from K562 or L929 cells was performed as described previously (7, 8). Briefly, the cells were labeled for 14 h with [<sup>35</sup>S]methionine/cysteine (25  $\mu$ Ci/ml), lysed in 0.5 M NaCl NET/NP-40 buffer

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## Anti-nuclear antibody production and immune-complex glomerulonephritis in BALB/c mice treated with pristane

(systemic lupus erythematosus/lupus nephritis/autoantibodies/autoimmunity/small nuclear ribonucleoproteins)

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**ABSTRACT** The pathogenesis of systemic lupus erythematosus is thought to be primarily under genetic control, with environmental factors playing a secondary role. However, it has been shown recently that intraperitoneal injection of pristane (2,6,10,14-tetramethylpentadecane) induces autoantibodies typical of lupus in BALB/c mice, a strain not usually considered to be genetically susceptible to the disease. In this study, the induction of autoimmune disease by pristane was investigated. BALB/c mice receiving pristane were tested for autoantibody production and histopathological evidence of glomerulonephritis. Six of 11 mice developed IgM anti-single-stranded DNA antibodies shortly after receiving pristane and 4 developed IgM anti-histone antibodies, but anti-double-stranded DNA antibodies were absent. IgG anti-DNA and anti-histone antibodies were absent. In contrast, the lupus-associated anti-nuclear ribonucleoprotein/Sm and anti-Su autoantibodies produced by these mice were predominantly IgG. In addition to autoantibodies, most of the mice developed significant proteinuria. Light microscopy of the kidney showed segmental or diffuse proliferative glomerulonephritis. Electron microscopy showed subepithelial and mesangial immune-complex deposits and epithelial foot process effacement. Immunofluorescence revealed striking glomerular deposition of IgM, IgG, and C3 with a mesangial or mesangiocapillary distribution. Thus, pristane induces immune-complex glomerulonephritis in association with autoantibodies typical of lupus in BALB/c mice. These data support the idea that lupus is produced by an interplay of genetic and environmental factors and that unlike the MRL or (NZB  $\times$  WZF<sub>1</sub>) mouse models, in which genetic susceptibility factors are of primary importance, environmental factors are of considerable importance in the autoimmune disease of pristane-treated BALB/c mice.

Systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) is a multisystem autoimmune disease characterized by anti-nuclear antibodies, immune-complex glomerulonephritis, arthritis, and other manifestations. Anti-double-stranded (ds) DNA autoantibodies are highly specific for SLE and may play a key role in the pathogenesis of immune-complex nephritis in lupus (1, 2). However, autoantibodies to glomerular antigens (3) and/or dysregulated cytokine production (4, 5) may also be involved. Human SLE is influenced strongly by major histocompatibility complex-linked and -nonlinked genes (6–8). Multiple genetic loci that accelerate the onset of autoantibody production and/or nephritis also have been identified in murine lupus models (9, 10). The importance of environmental factors in the pathogenesis of lupus is less clear. However, the role of environmental exposures in autoantibody production is underscored by the recent demonstration that intraperitoneal

(i.p.) injection of pristane (2,6,10,14-tetramethylpentadecane) induces autoantibodies characteristic of SLE, including anti-Su and anti-nuclear ribonucleoprotein (nRNP)/Sm, in BALB/c mice, a strain not usually considered to be predisposed to autoimmunity (11). Titers of these autoantibodies are comparable to those found in MRL/lpr mice (12). The present data show that in addition to IgG anti-Su and anti-nRNP/Sm autoantibodies, pristane induces IgM anti-single-stranded (ss) DNA, anti-histone antibodies, and immune-complex glomerulonephritis in the “nonautoimmune” BALB/c strain.

### MATERIALS AND METHODS

**Administration of Pristane.** Eleven 4- to 5-month-old and 10 2.5-month-old female BALB/c ByJ mice (The Jackson Laboratory) received a single i.p. injection of 0.5 ml of pristane (Sigma) (11). Sera were obtained at 1, 2, 4 weeks and monthly thereafter. Urine samples were tested monthly for protein concentration by using Albutix reagent strips (Miles).

**ELISAs for Anti-nRNP/Sm, Su, ssDNA, and Histone Autoantibodies.** Anti-Su and anti-nRNP/Sm antigen-capture ELISAs were performed as described (12) with 1:250 diluted murine serum and alkaline phosphatase-conjugated goat anti-mouse IgG or IgM antibodies. Antibodies to heat-denatured calf thymus DNA (ssDNA, from Sigma) and to total calf thymus histones (United States Biochemical) were detected by ELISAs as described (13, 14) with a 1:500 dilution of murine sera and alkaline phosphatase-conjugated goat anti-mouse IgG or IgM antibodies.

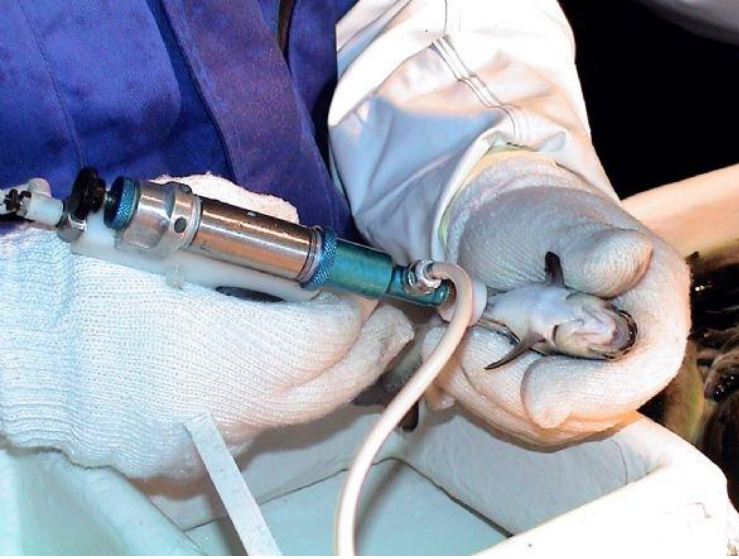
**Light and Electron Microscopy.** Six months after receiving pristane, BALB/c and control mice not receiving pristane were anesthetized and fixed by perfusion through the left ventricle (15). The inferior vena cava was nicked below the renal veins, and 20 ml of saline was perfused slowly, followed by 10 ml of 2.5% (vol/vol) glutaraldehyde in 0.1 M sodium cacodylate, pH 7.4/4 mM CaCl<sub>2</sub>. For light microscopy, 3- $\mu$ m sections of aldehyde-fixed renal cortex were stained with hematoxylin and eosin as described (16). For electron microscopy, aldehyde-fixed renal tissue was postfixated with osmium tetroxide, dehydrated in ethanol, and embedded in Epon 812. Thin sections (60 nm) were stained with lead citrate and uranyl acetate and examined by electron microscopy (16).

**Immunofluorescence.** Kidneys were excised from pristane-primed or control mice and snap-frozen in isopentane chilled in liquid N<sub>2</sub>. Cryostat sections (4  $\mu$ m) were stained with a 1:40 dilution of fluorescein isothiocyanate (FITC) or rhodamine-conjugated goat anti-mouse IgM, IgG, IgG1, IgG2a, IgG2b, or IgG3 antibodies (Southern Biotechnology Associates) or with FITC-conjugated rabbit anti-mouse C3 antiserum (Organon

Abbreviations: nRNP, nuclear ribonucleoprotein; SLE, systemic lupus erythematosus; ds, double stranded; ss, single stranded; IL, interleukin.

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$0,1 \text{ ml} / 40 \text{ g} = 200 \text{ ml} / 80 \text{ kg}$

## Aktuell publisasjon

## Vaksinering av oppdrettsfisk – sjukdomsvern med attåttsmak

**Vaksinering av oppdrettslaks er viktig for å unngå tapstringende infeksjonssjukdomer. Utvikling av effektive vaksiner og vaksinerstrategier har redusert antibiotika-bruken i oppdrettsnæringa i Norge frå eit uakseptabelt høgt nivå for 15 år sidan til eit i dag som er klart lågare enn i liknande animalske produksjonar. Samstundes har produksjonen av oppdrettslaks mange-doble seg. Dei vanligaste nytta øljebaserte vaksinane vert formulert som vaks-i-olje, eller såkalla "incomplete Freund's adjuvans". Ulike bakterie- og virusantigen vert sette til formuleringa. Vaksinen vert injisert intraperitonealt i månndane før eller under smoltfiseringa. Her gjev han ein depoteffekt som initierer og opprettheld ein langvarig immunitet gjennom resten av produksjonssyklusen.**

## ORIGINALREFERANSER:

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## Tilhøve kring vaksiner i bruk

Vaksinane sine immunogene eigenskapar følgjer av lantemembranstruktur fram til dei av opp- i vaksinen og sarsubstansi, virus- og bakterieantigen, som skal gje eit spesifikt vern.

Det er utviklet ei rekke artikkelar som tek for seg optikk og distribusjon av vaksiner i opp- i laks etter vaksining. Det er særleg vakserett lipopolyalkohol (LPS) og A-lag fra *Acetabularia salmoneida* subspecies *salmonicida* som har vorte undersøkt. Resultata viser at i tillegg til å persistera ved infeksjonslocus, vert antigen i hovudsak distribuert til leverdysje (beidisk sitt permanente proseduro) og milt. Ikkje rekner med at A-lag-veit vert prosessert og presentert for T-celler i disse lymfatiske organ, slik at eit spesifikt immunrespons kan initierast.

Når dei gjeld optikk og distribusjonen av oppkomponentar i vaksinen, er publiserte undersøkingar frå fisk friværnde. Opp- som vert nytta er i stor utsegn ei blanding kvite mineraloljer, som er lipofila frå perle-mammulose (1). Det er undersøkt av milt hydraterbaroljer, aren-

retto- og grønta kjelder eller vagnatodunar, av vagnatodunar kjelder som er seier essentele med bokke fisk neddyring. Den relative konsentrasjonen av milt-oljestruktur, vete- og grønta kjelder angjer også sine biologiske eigenskapar. Rette hydraterbaroljer, med ei kjedlangdeklarering frå 15 til 23 karbonatom, har vist seg å vere mer partione ein lange hydrokarbon, med ei kjedlangdeklarering frå 25 til 50 karbonatom, til å innleie bestemte responsar og verke som adjuvans. For å få fleire informasjon om distribusjonen og metabolismen til vaksiner, er det ein konsultere literatur publisert etter undersøkingar på vagnatodunar dyr. I forsking på rotter vert rettometa hydrokarbon injisert og distribusjonen undersøkt. Sidan hydrokarbona er fettløslige, vert dei ikkje verna ut dei over tid var. Ikkjeber og akkumulert i lever og fettvev (2). Neddyringa var svært langsom. For fisk-olje frå hov er det publiserte informasjonar der hydrokarbon etter vaksining vert analysert ved hjelp av gasskromatografi-massaspektrometri. Her var det senn at dyra kvitte seg med hydrokarbona gjennom egg. Dessom hovet ikkje verpa, var di-

## Preseting om vaksining av oppdrettsfisk

I NVT nr. 7, 2005 har professee og fagleg med-adsidlar i NVT Øystein Evensen eit innlegg under emnet Debat, med tittelen "Vaksining av oppdrettsfisk", der han kjemmer ein artikkel ved "Vaksining av oppdrettsfisk - sjukdomsvern med attåttsmak" i NVT nr. 4, 2005. Me takkar for interessa, men ser oss neyt til å oppklare eit par misforståingar.

Me vil fyr det fyrste påpeike at hovudpoenget vårt i innlegget i NVT nr. 4 er at oljeemulsjonar (1), (2) til bruk i adjuvans bør undersøkast for om dei kan distribuere systemisk i animalsk laks etter intraperitoneal injisering.

Dette spørsmålet er grunna i mange studiar på pattedyr der det er funne patologiske forandringar i ulike vev etter eksponering for ulike hydrokarbon (3). Studiar frå desse eksperimenta vert referert då det er manglande kunnskap på dette området innan fisk, noke Evensen også stadfestar i innlegget sitt i NVT nr. 7, 2005. Det er også kjent frå dyr og menneske at absorberne hydrokarbona primært vert distribuert via lymfesystemet til lymfeknøttar og lever, sekundært til hovet (4).

Undersøkingane våre publisert i *Journal of Fish Diseases* (JFD) og omfatta i NVT nr. 4, varte patologiske funn som kan gje informasjon på at den vaksineremta distribusjonen også vert tilfellet på fisk. Men me presetar i JFD-publikasjonen at kjemiske studiar må utførast for å vere sikre på dette.

Sidan dei publiserte funna kan gje tilstrekkeleg mistanke om at vaksinen kan vere distribuert i kroppen også på fisk, må det vurderast å utføre farmakokinetiske studiar med emnyn på adjuvansen (olje eller i kombinasjon med antigen) (5).

Poenget er såleis at me ikkje byggja basert innlegget vårt i NVT nr. 4, 2005 på funn som er publisert i JFD slik Evensen hevda i kommentaren sin. Dette er det også glatt greie for med si rekke referensar til andre publikasjonar.

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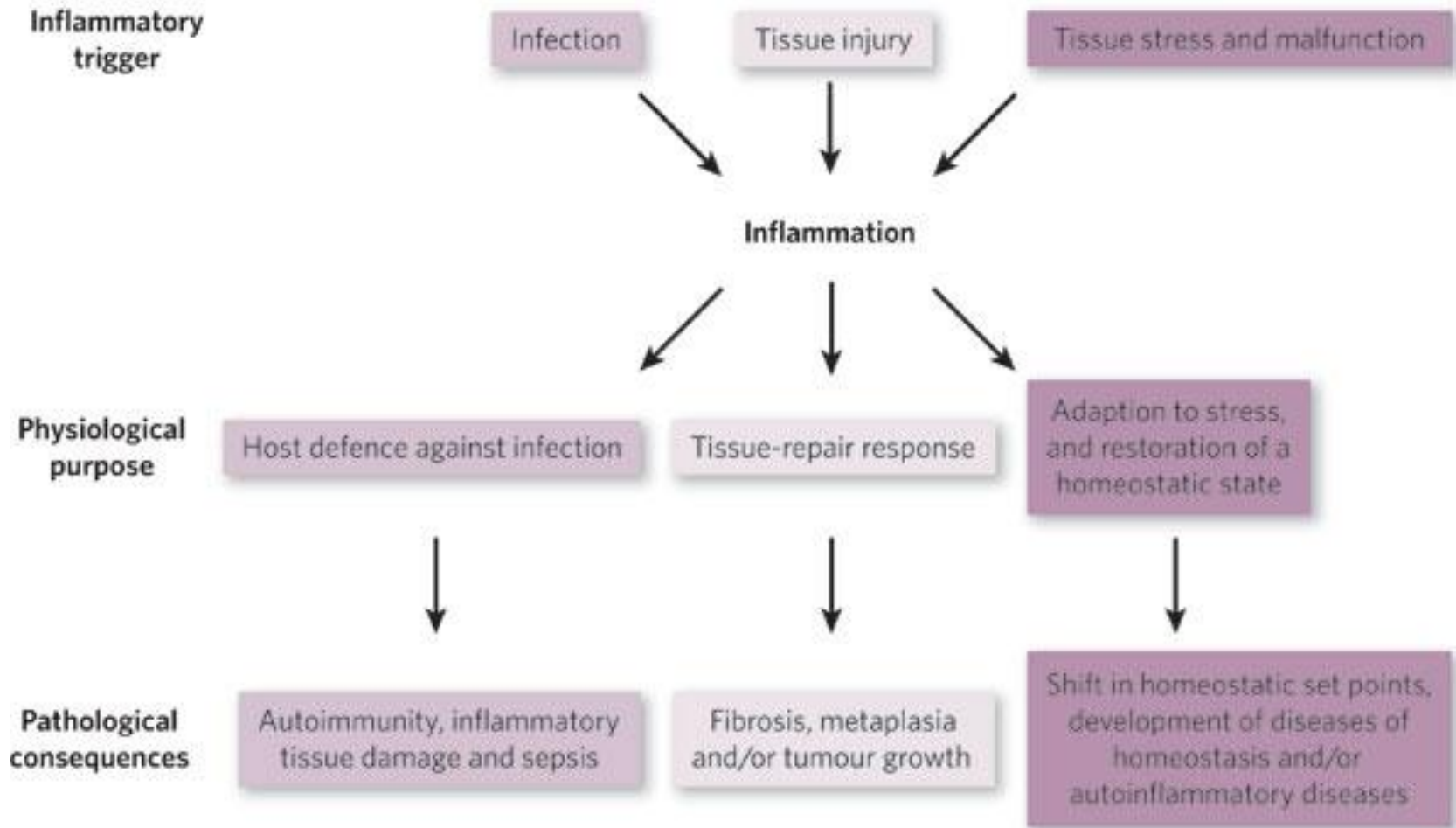
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3. Haugravoll E, Kjøppang EO. Vaksining av oppdrettsfiske sjukdomsvern med attåttsmak. *Norsk Veterinær Tidsskrift* 2005; 117: 286-90.
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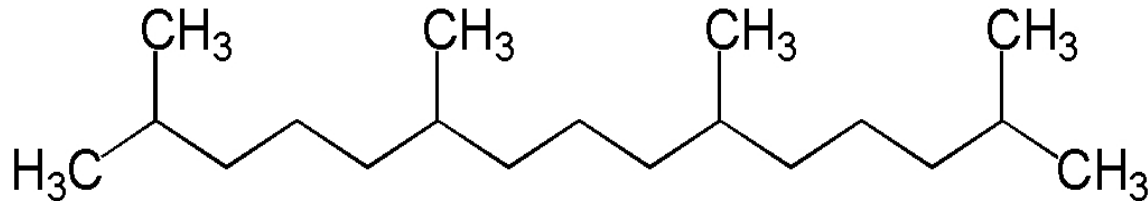




# Pristane

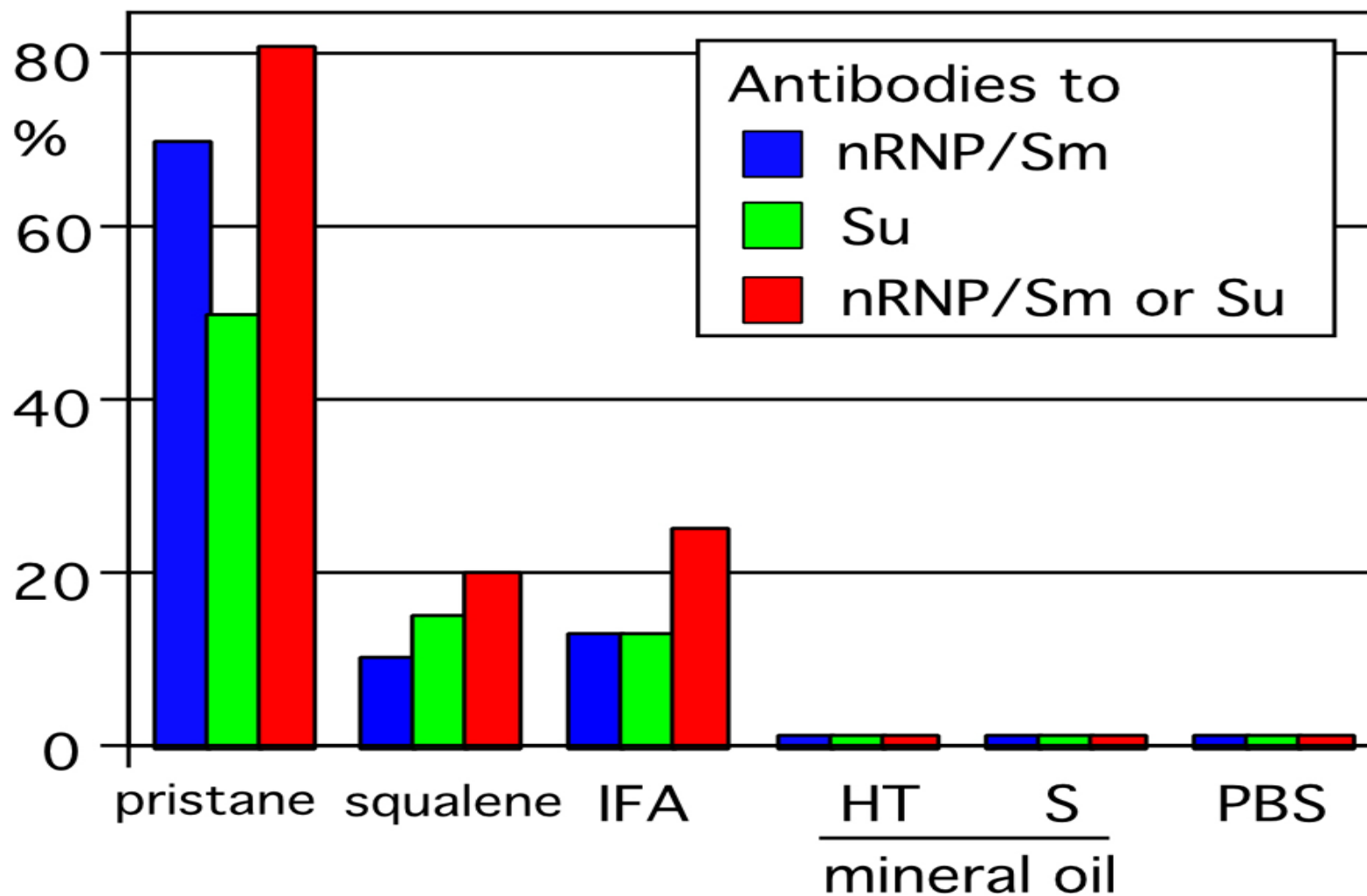
## (2,6,10,14-tetramethylpentadecane, TMPD)

- C19 isoprenoid alkane (C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>40</sub>)
- A component of mineral oil



- A single intraperitoneal injection (ip) induces plasmacytoma and chronic destructive arthritis in mice
- **Induction of lupus-like autoimmune syndrome**  
Antinuclear antibodies, anti-Sm/U1RNP, ribosomal P, dsDNA, immune complex glomerulonephritis  
(Satoh M and Reeves WH, J Exp Med 1994, Satoh M et al., Proc Natl Acad Sci USA 1995)

# Vaccine Adjuvant Oils Squalene and Incomplete Freund's Adjuvant (IFA) Induce Lupus-related Autoantibodies





# Vaksinert laks fra samme utsett



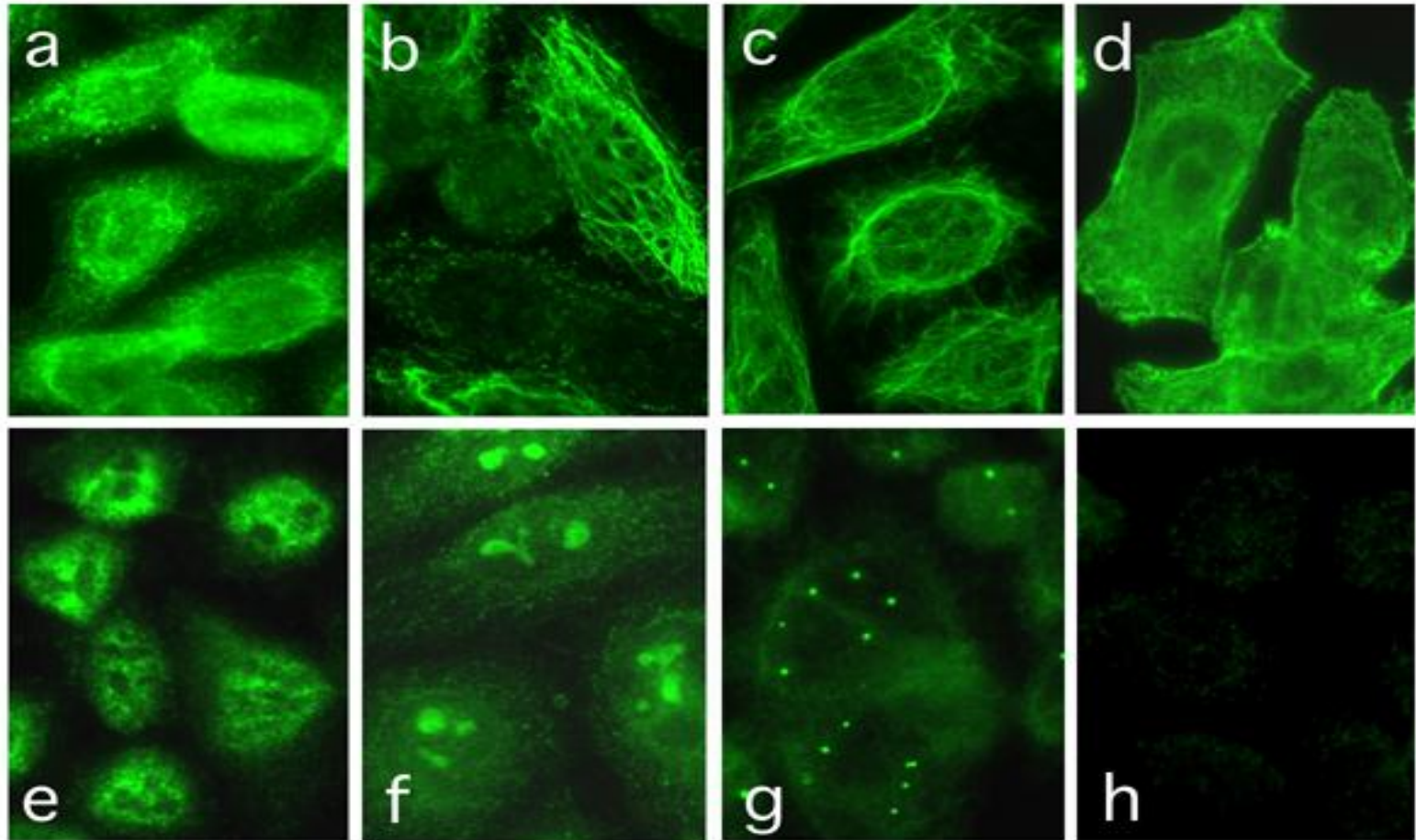
Unvaccinated

Vaccinated #1  
Moderate-severe

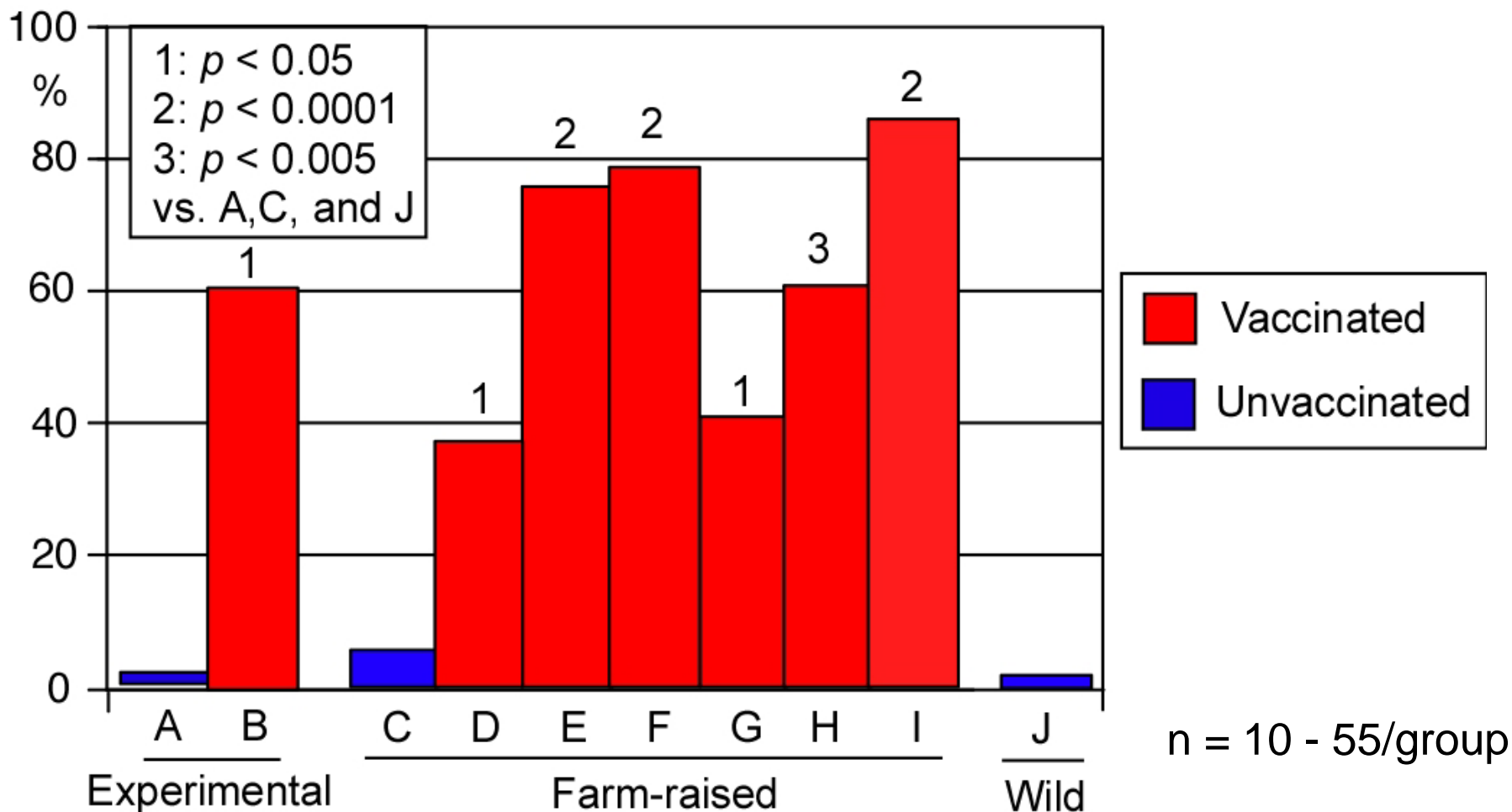
Vaccinated #2  
Severe

Same age and population

# Autoantistoff i sera fra ulike vaksinerte individer og ikke- vaksinert fisk (h)

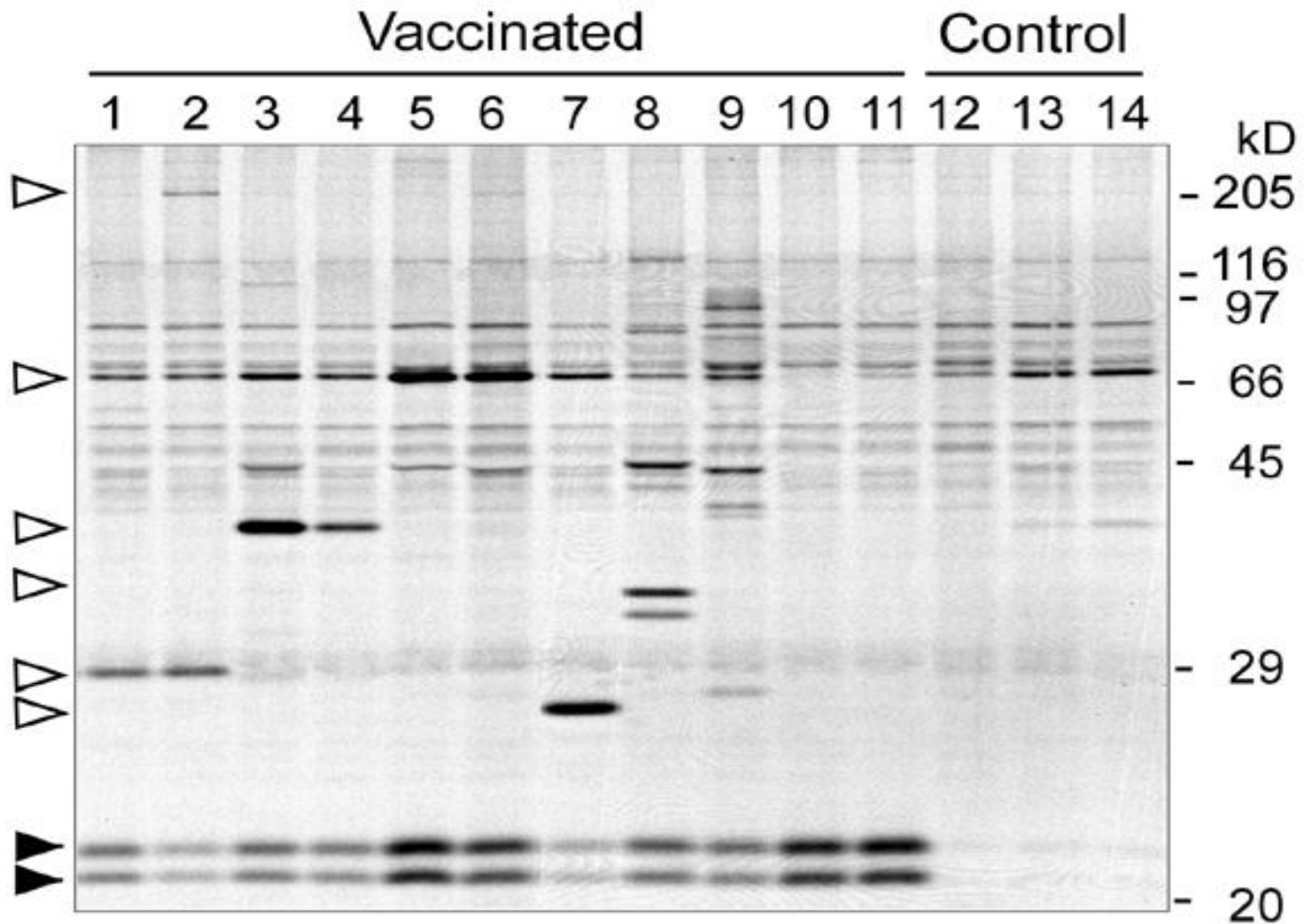


# Frequency of Anti-nuclear/cytoplasmic Antibodies by Immunofluorescence

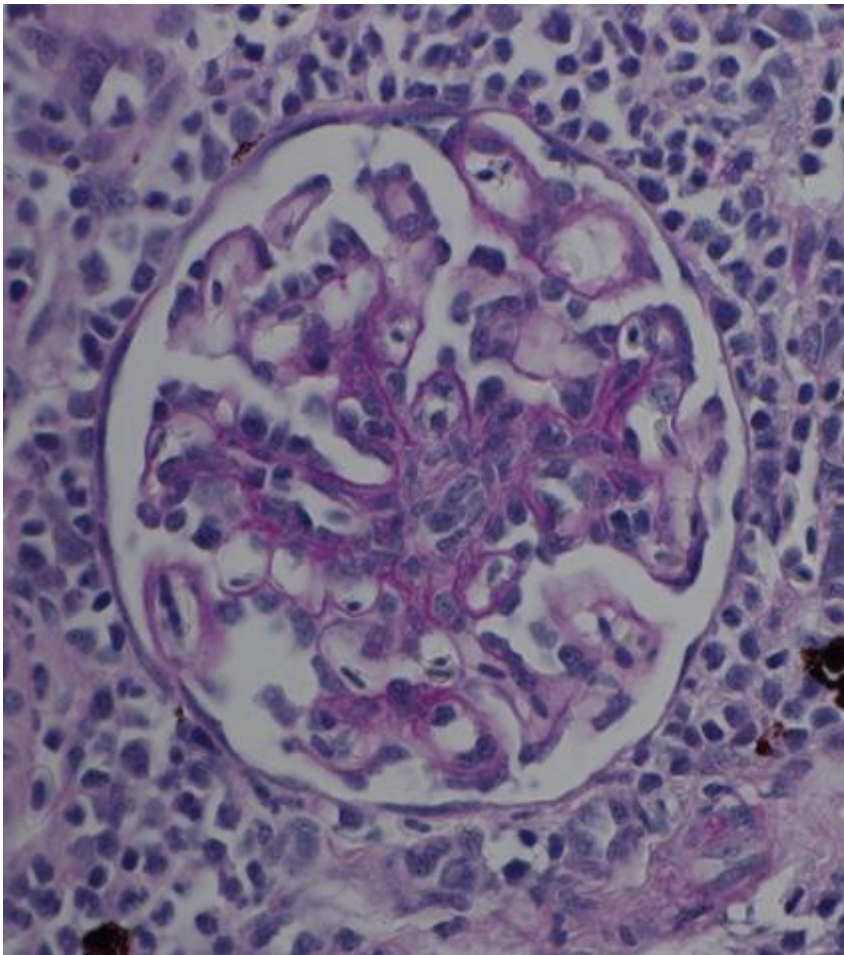




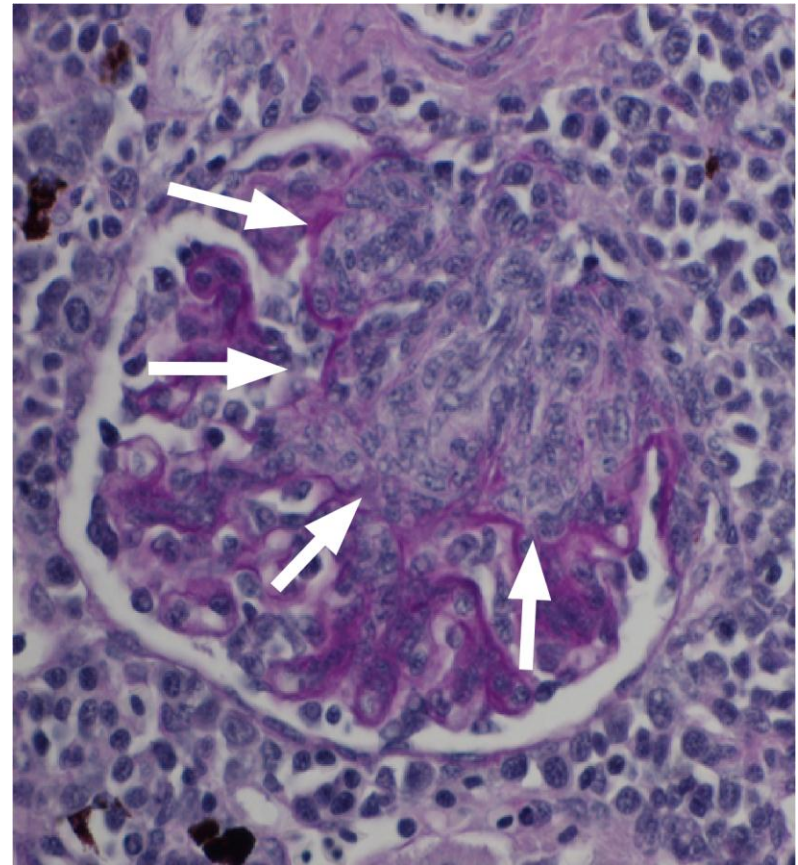
# Immunoprecipitation Using Sera from Vaccinated vs. Unvaccinated Salmon (0.5 M NaCl buffer washing)



# Focal Endocapillary Proliferation in Glomeruli from Vaccinated Salmon (PAS)



Unvaccinated

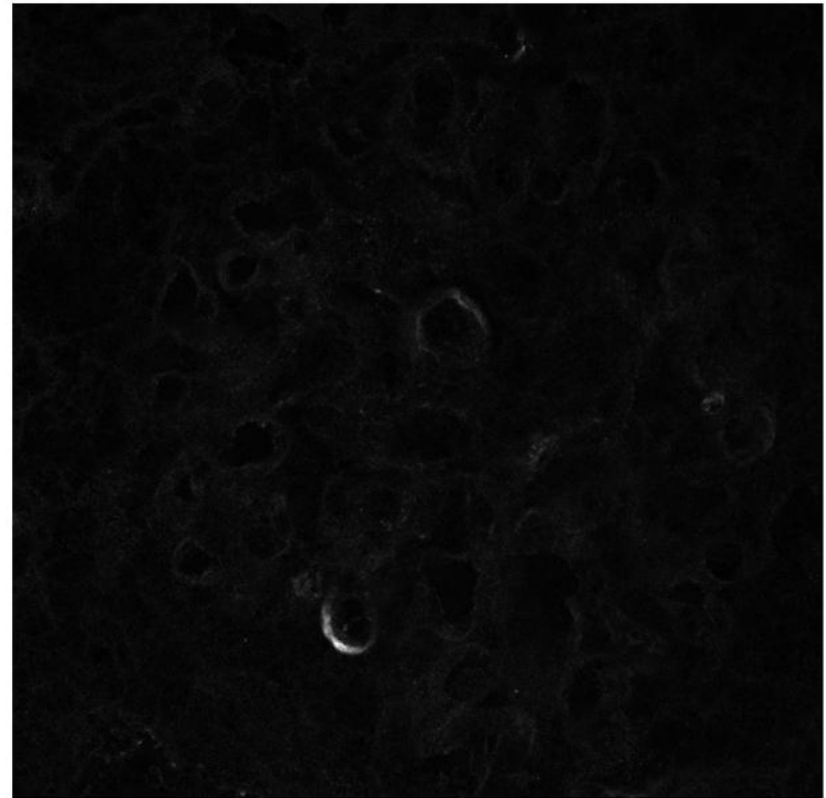
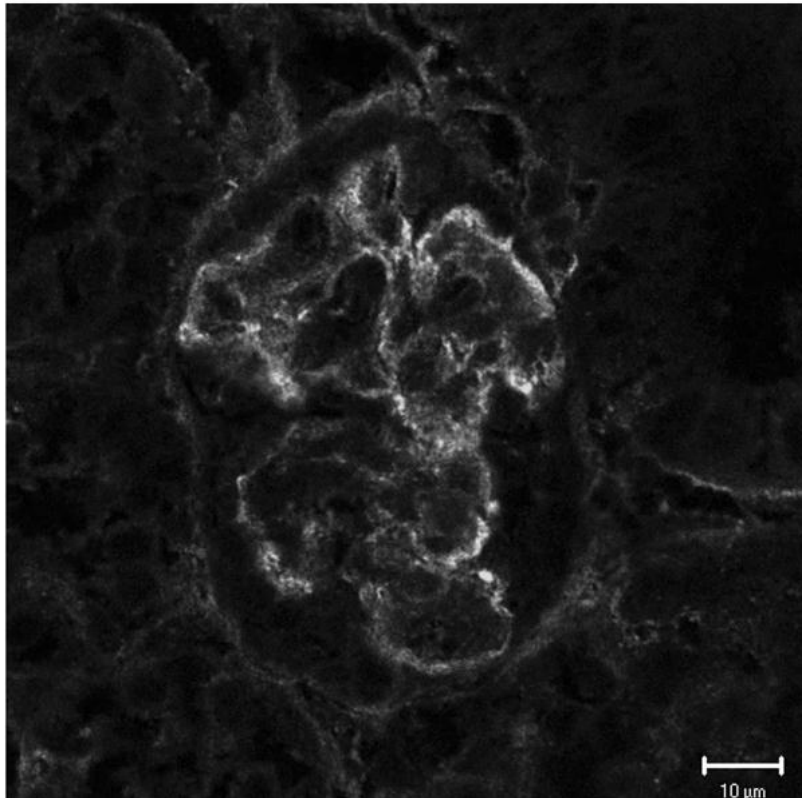


Vaccinated

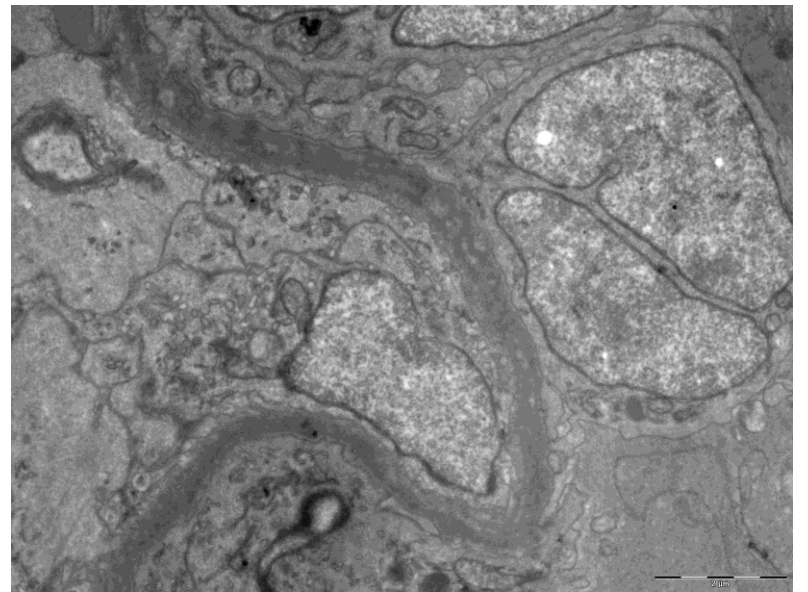
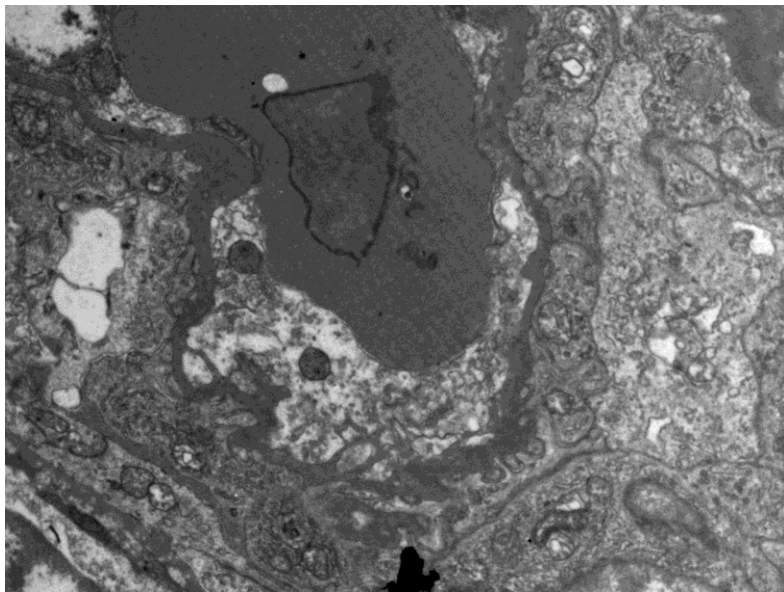
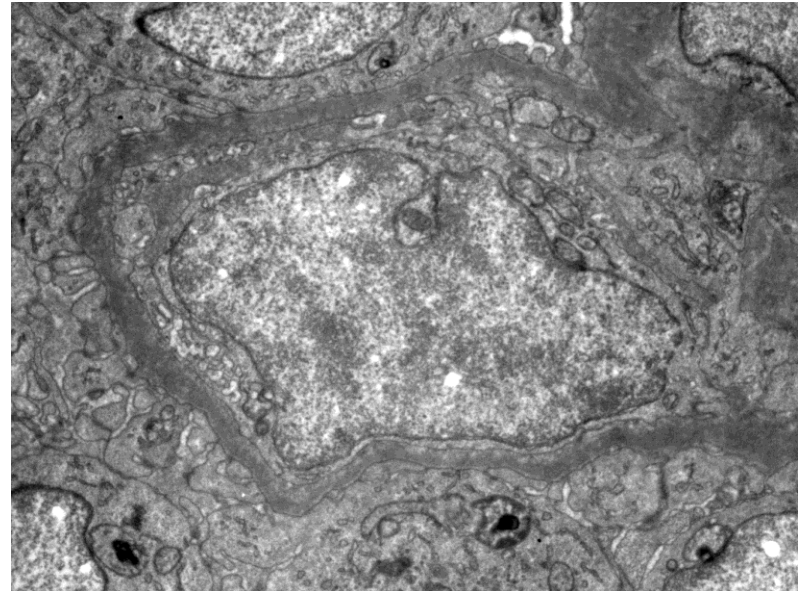
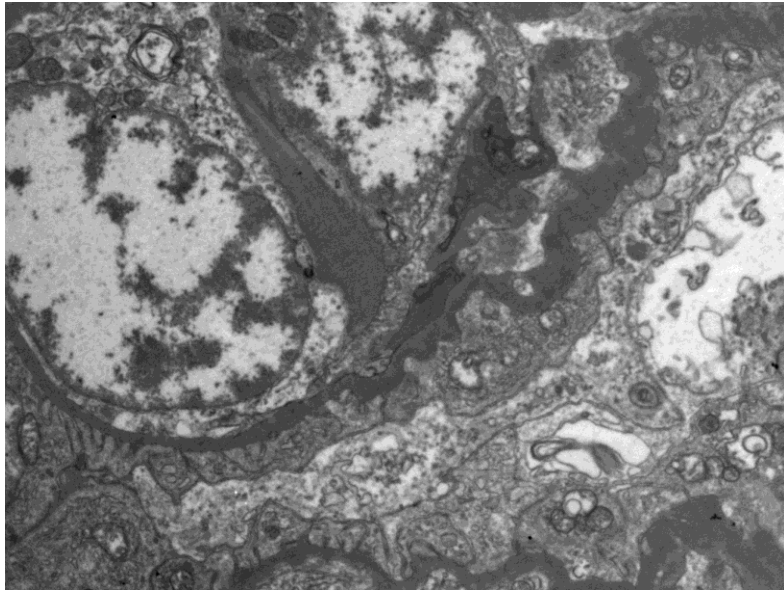
# A Granular-short Linear Capillary Deposition of Immunoglobulins in Kidneys from Vaccinated Salmon

**Vaccinated**

**Unvaccinated**









## Manifestations of systemic autoimmunity in vaccinated salmon

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### ABSTRACT

The development of systemic autoimmunity may result as an undesired side-effect following vaccination, and this condition was recently shown to occur in farmed salmon (Salmo salar). Several of previously reported side-effects following vaccination of fish should therefore be reviewed in the light of this condition. Here, organs and pathological changes in three separate groups of fish severely affected by vaccination were investigated by different morphological methods (n=84). Granulomas or microgranulomas were observed at the injection site and in several organs. Mort cells were observed in all tissues examined. Pannus-like changes with lymphocyte infiltrates were observed in spines. In conclusion, the reactions following vaccination were of a systemic nature that may be explained by a pathogenetic mechanism caused by systemic autoimmunity.

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### 1. Introduction

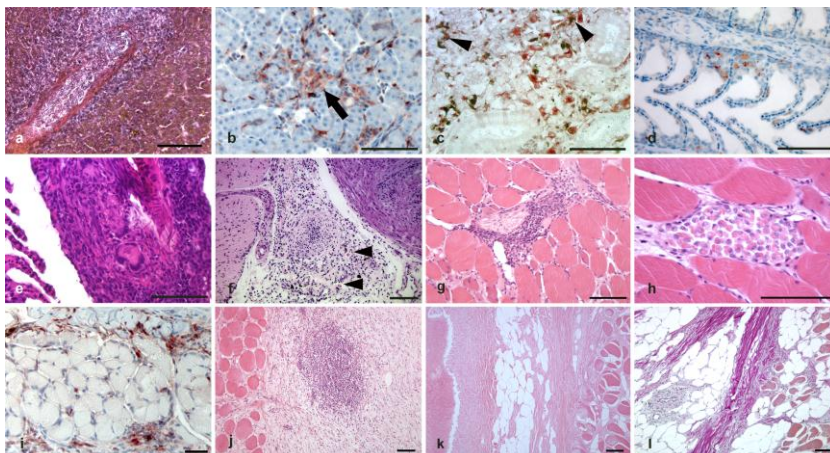
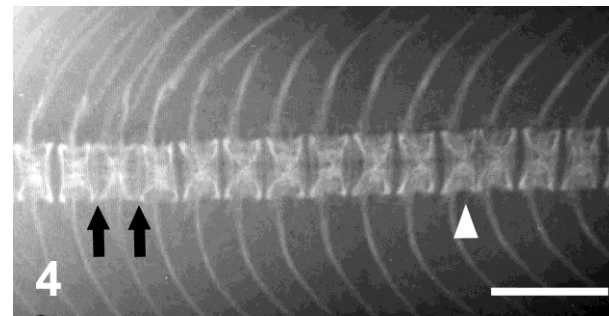
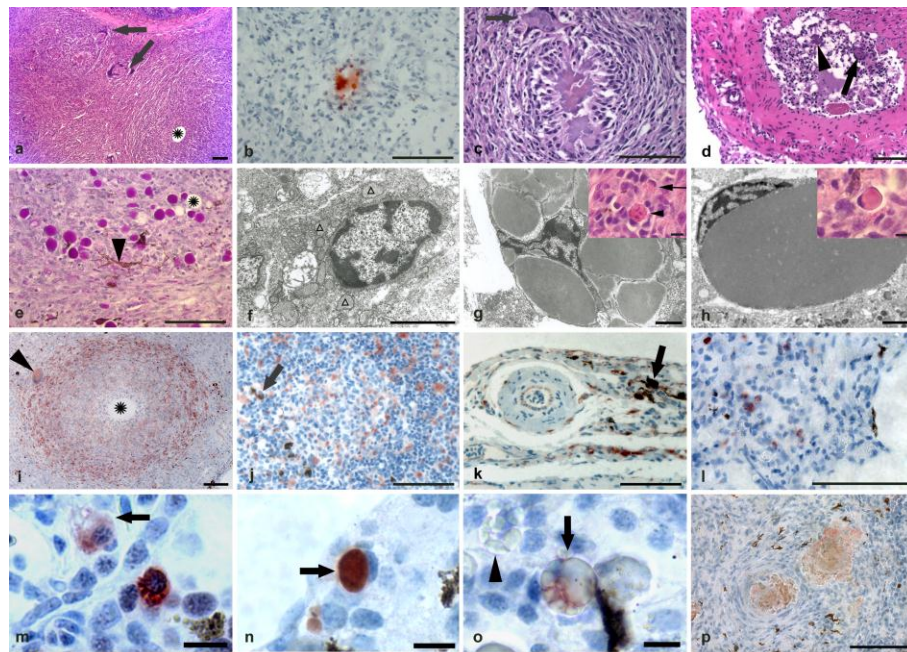
The successful prevention of a series of different infectious diseases in man and animals may be obtained by vaccines, but frequently, concerns are raised regarding their safety. Undesired side-effects following vaccine injections include fever, rash-like symptoms, lymphadenopathy and swelling at the site of inoculation, but long-term effects such as hypersensitivity, induction of infection and autoimmunity are considered rare [1]. In general, the lack of a standardized vaccine safety assessment system is striking [2]. According to The European Agency for the Evaluation of Medical Products, Veterinary Medicines Evaluation Unit, the ideal adjuvanted vaccine is safe for the treated animals, does not cause clinical or local reactions or allergic reactions and is also safe for consumers of food produced from vaccinated animals. As such an ideal adjuvanted vaccine currently is not available, some limited local and systemic reactions have to be tolerated, but without compromising consumer safety [3].

To prevent several costly infectious diseases, farmed salmon are intraperitoneally injected with vaccines containing adjuvant oil and a number of different antigens [4]. Intraperitoneal injections of adjuvant oil alone induce autoimmunity in mice [5,6], and combined vaccines containing antigens from several pathogens are theoretically more prone to trigger immune responses that

may develop into autoimmune diseases [1]. In addition, the dosage/body-weight ratio in salmon vaccination is considerably higher than that of mammals [7]. All these factors argue for higher frequency and severity of vaccine-induced side-effects in salmon compared to farmed mammals and humans. IL-1, a cytokine that plays a key role in the pathogenesis of systemic autoimmunity in adjuvant-injected mice [6], is induced in vaccinated salmon [8]. Recipient fish may over time develop mild to severe pathological changes as a consequence of vaccination, and observed adverse reactions include impaired growth rate, decreased carcass quality, spinal deformities, uveitis and inflammatory reactions in the abdominal cavity [9–19]. Recently, the development of systemic autoimmunity was added to the list of undesired side-effects, possibly explaining the aetiology of several of the above-listed adverse reactions [7].

Systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) is the prototype systemic autoimmune disease characterised by autoantibodies to various nuclear antigens [20] and multiple organ involvement including skin rash, arthritis, pericarditis, glomerulonephritis, vasculitis, myositis and lymphadenopathy [21,22]. When vaccinated farmed Atlantic salmon was examined for systemic autoimmunity, we detected autoantibodies, immune-complex glomerulonephritis, and chronic granulomatous inflammation [7] similar to those described in adjuvant hydrocarbon oil-induced SLE in rodents [6].

In 2005, we indicated the connections between the oil adjuvant and its potentials for inducing systemic autoimmunity when addressing some vaccine-related adverse effects in salmon [16,23]. However, it was first in 2008 that we could publish evidences showing this condition to be present in vaccinated salmon [7,24]. With



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# Hva er dagens situasjon?

Til grunn for undersøkelsene er det blitt utført eksperimenter:

- 1) Feltforsøk (Salmar) med uvaksinert fisk (gruppe 0) og 5 grupper med fisk vaksinert med vaksiner fra forskjellige produsenter (1 til 5).
- 2) Vaksineforsøk med triploid og diploid vaksinert og uvaksinert fisk ved to forskjellige temperaturer ved Havforskningsinstituttets forskningsstasjon på Matre.
- I tillegg skal det samles inn fisk fra felten fra Lerøys anlegg.

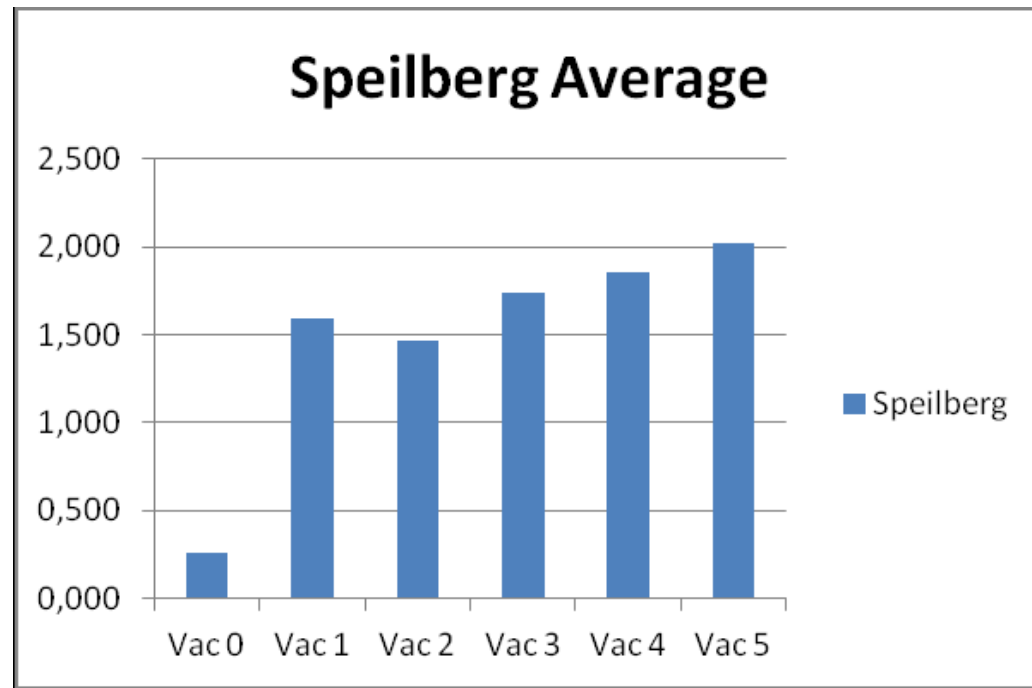
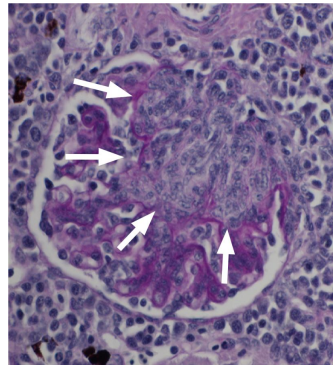
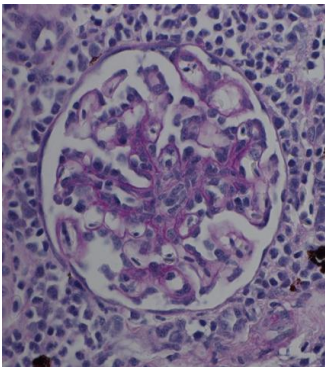


# Feltforsøk (SalMar)

- Antall totalt i Merd: 171 000
- Snittvekt: 5 500 gram
- Dødelighet siden utsett: 5,92 %, usortert siden utsett
- Forsøksfisk: 4469 stk
- 6 grupper a 700 – 800 fisk: uvaksinert fisk (gruppe 0) og 5 grupper med fisk vaksinert med vaksiner fra forskjellige produsenter (1 til5).
- SalMar startet i 2009 opp et vaksineprosjekt med formål og benchmark vaksiner mhp tilvekst og vaksinebivirkninger.

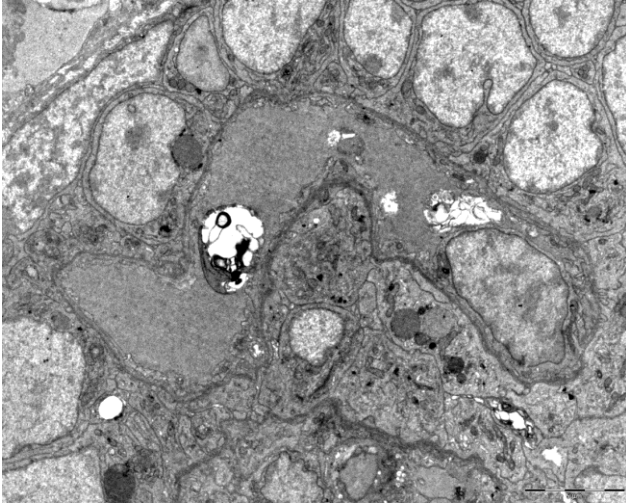
# Resultater fra feltforsøk I

**Histologi nyrer:** Totalt antall undersøkt 248. Antall individer undersøkt i hver gruppe: Vac 0=43, Vac 1=38, Vac 2=45, Vac 3=34, Vac 4=51, Vac 5=37. Tegn på glomerulonefritt ble funnet i nær samtlige individer.

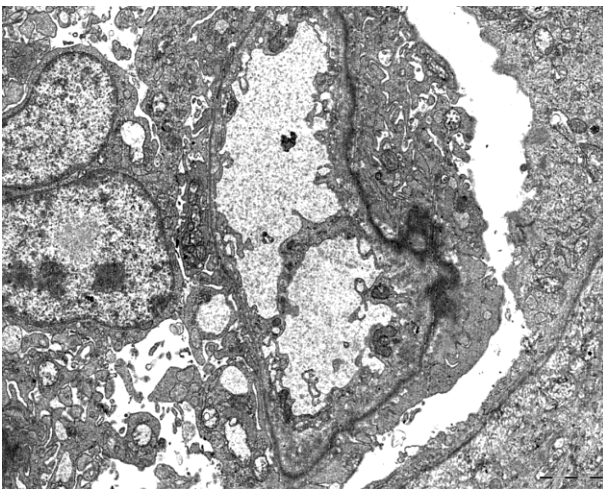


Denne fisken har hatt utbrudd av HSMI!

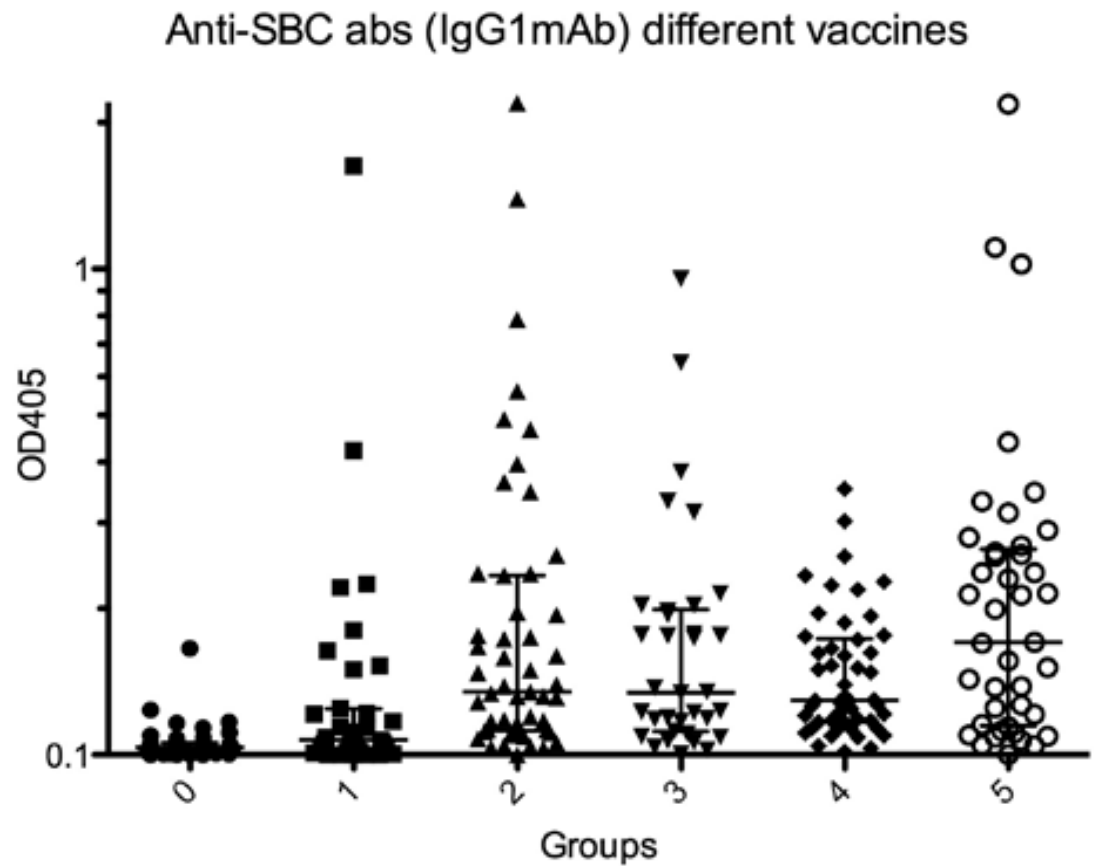
# Resultater fra feltforsøk II



Gruppe 0 (uvaksinert)



Gruppe 1-5 (vaksinert)





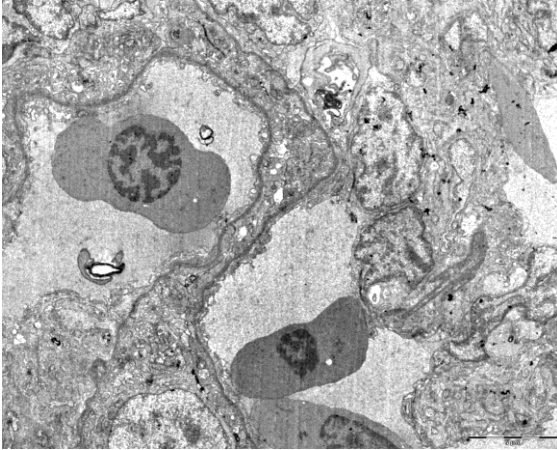
# Matre-forsøkene: diploid og triploid fisk

- Triploid fisk ble konstruert ved bruk av hydrostatisk trykk mot befruktete egg (des 2009).
- Forsøk startet i november 2010 da halvparten av fisken ble vaksinert. Deretter startet smoltifiseringsregimet. Halvparten av fisken (like mange vaksinerte som uvaksinerte) ble smoltifisert på normal måte, ferdig mai 2011. Den andre halvparten ble smoltifisert ved for høyet temperatur (opp til 16° C) og under kontinuerlig belysning for å fremskynde prosessen, ferdig januar 2011.

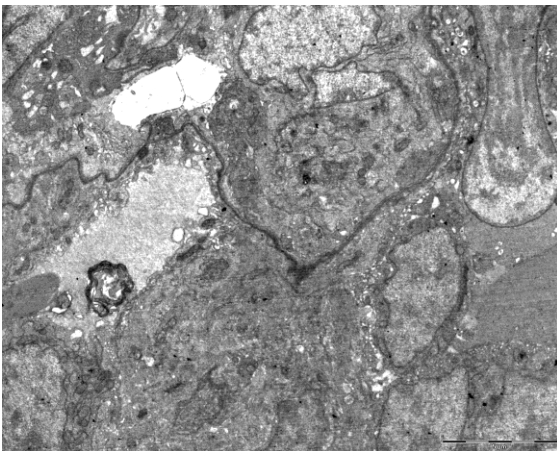
## **Fisken kan dermed deles inn i åtte grupper:**

- 1: N-DUV (normal smoltifiseringstemperatur, diploid uvaksinert)
- 2: N-DV (normal smoltifiseringstemperatur, diploid vaksinert)
- 3: N-TUV (normal smoltifiseringstemperatur, triploid uvaksinert)
- 4: N-TV (normal smoltifiseringstemperatur, triploid vaksinert)
- 5: H-DUV (høy smoltifiseringstemperatur, diploid uvaksinert)
- 6: H-DV (høy smoltifiseringstemperatur, diploid vaksinert)
- 7: H-TUV (høy smoltifiseringstemperatur, triploid uvaksinert)
- 8: H-TV (høy smoltifiseringstemperatur, triploid vaksinert)

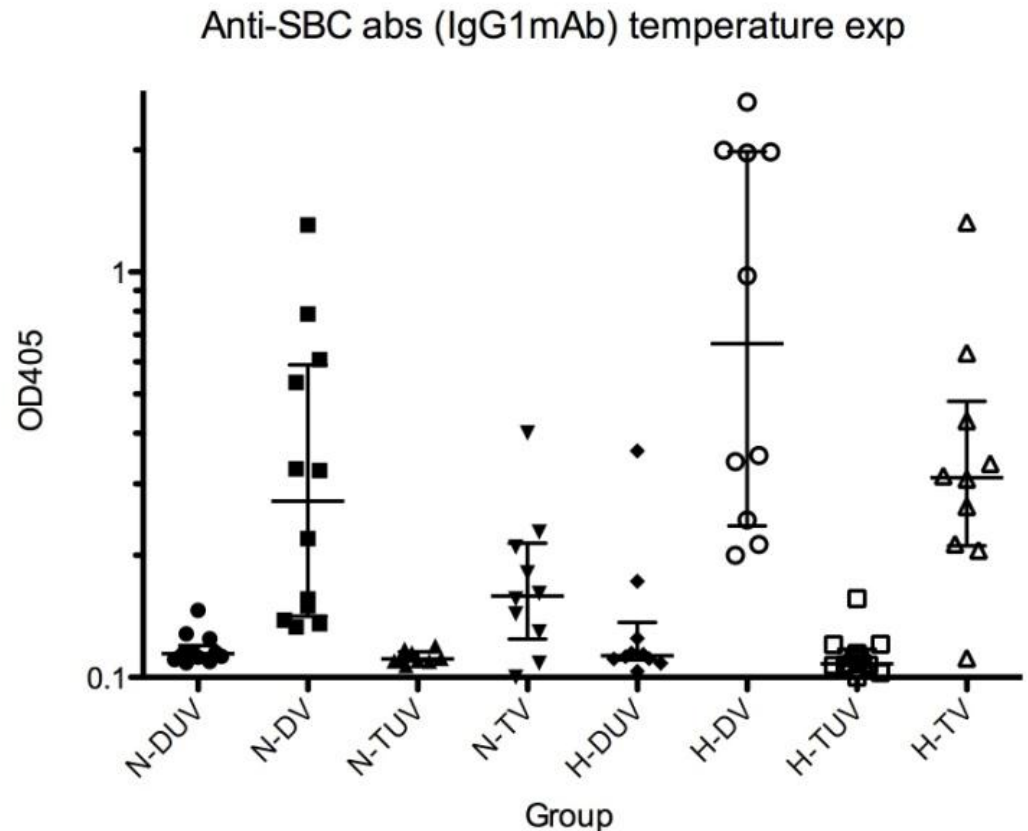
# Resultater fra Matre-forsøkene (10 individer i gruppen)



Uvaksinert fisk



Vaksinert fisk



**Og:** Histologisk forskjell i glomeruli mellom vaksinert og uvaksinert fisk (ingen kjente infeksjoner i fisken).

# Konklusjoner

- Grupper av vaksinert og uvaksinert fisk lar seg skille serologisk i begge eksperimentene på forekomst av autoantistoff mot lakseerythrocytter.
- Ingen stor forskjell i autoantistofftiter mellom de 5 undersøkte vaksinene.
- Det er histologiske forskjeller mellom gruppene i glomeruli der det ikke har vært HSMI-utbrudd (Matre-fisken).
- Det er elektronmikroskopisk detekterbare forskjeller i glomeruli mellom grupper av vaksinert og uvaksinert fisk.
- Det er gjennomgående høyere titer av autoantistoff i den diploide kontra den triploide fisken.
- **Hovedkonklusjon: STATUS QUO!**



# Men hva bør gjøres?

## Orale vaksiner og dyppvaksiner!







Takk til Merete B. Schrøder, FHF, for godt samarbeide!

Takk til **FHF**, SalMar ASA, Lerøy Seafood Group ASA og AquaGen AS  
for finansiering