Risk factors for *Toxoplasma gondii* infection in farm animals. A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis.

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The zoonotic protozoan parasite *Toxoplasma gondii* (T. gondii) can be transmitted to humans in various ways. One of those is the ingestion of raw or undercooked meat from infected animals, containing tissue cysts. This emphasizes the importance of a risk factor analysis for the infection with T. gondii in the main livestock species. To ensure safe food and intervene in the infectious cycle, the mechanisms by which they undergo an infection with the parasite need to be understood.

For that purpose, we conducted a systematic literature review, expected to result in a meta-analysis of the putative risk factors identified for the relevant livestock species. This systematic review is in parts a continuation and an update of a previously published EFSA external scientific report (Opsteegh et al., 2016). The reviewing process is carried out following the PRISMA guidelines.

It is already evident that cats, as the definite hosts of the parasite, have an important role in the spread of T. gondii on the farm. But also for other factors, e.g. the control of rodents as the intermediate host of the parasite, or the biosecurity measures, there are studies showing a potential influence on the seroprevalence in the animals.

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