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| **Master-/Bachelorarbeit 4****Prevalence of porcine cytomegalovirus (PCMV) in wild boars** |
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| PCMV is a porcine roseolovirus closely related to human herpesvirus 6 (HHV-6) and HHV-7. PCMV has been shown to reduce the survival time of pig xenotransplants in non-human primates and is therefore of importance for xenotransplantation using pig cells, tissues and organs. Using highly sensitive methods (PCR-based, immunological) the prevalence of PCMV in multiply genetically modified pigs generated for xenotransplantation, in slaughterhouse pigs and different minipigs has been studied, however the prevalence in wild boars is still unknown. Using these methods wild boars from Germany and Italy should be screened for PCMV.  |
| Blood and tissue samples of wild boars will be screened for PCMV using PCR and real-time PCR. In addition, serum samples will be screened for antibodies against PCMV using Western blot analysis and ELISAs based on recombinant viral proteins or viral lysates. Recombinant proteins and virus pellets have to be generated.  |

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