

## **P.11.- A new sensitive assay for the detection of ovine and caprine PrPres**

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TeSeE™ Sheep/Goat is a new rapid assay for the post mortem diagnosis of TSEs in small ruminants (sheep and goat). This new Bio-Rad ELISA kit is based on the same assay procedure and interpretation criteria than the TeSeE™ assay actively used in most laboratories for the detection of BSE in cattle. The new TeSeE™ Sheep/Goat assay has the capacity to detect PrPSc in different type of tissues from infected animals. The presented data were obtained when comparing the performances of the two TeSeE™ and TeSeE™ Sheep/Goat assays, with different ovine and goat tissue samples (nervous tissues, lymph nodes tissues, ...). Assays were performed either manually or semi automatically with the TeSeE™ NSP system. With the same assay procedure for both sample processing and immunometric detection, TeSeE™ Sheep/Goat assay can be easily adapted to all TSEs screening laboratories. The assay sensitivity and specificity are improved by the specifically designed buffer A composition. Newly selected monoclonal antibodies enhance the specific recognition of ovine and caprine PrPSc in various tissues from infected animals, with a very low affinity with bovine PrPres. For better adaptability of the test to the laboratory activity, the sample purification stage of the TeSeE™ Sheep/Goat assay has been adapted and validated on the TeSeE™ NSP System. Thus, assay reproducibility is improved even when large series of samples are tested.

### ***Keywords***

*Evaluation, rapid tests, TSE, sheep.*