



Agrokorn

Ayurvet

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Hyline

Lallemand

LUBING

Menon Animal Nutrition

Norel

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Perstorp

Special Nutrients

Vencomatic

## Pathology

- **Runting disease syndrome** – Main lesions seen are atrophic bursae of Fabricius and thymuses, enlarged peripheral nerves, abnormally developed feathers, proventriculitis, enteritis and anaemia with hepatic and splenic necrosis.
- **Chicken bursal lymphoma** – Chickens inoculated with REV T strain develop lymphomas and these are found mainly on the bursa of Fabricius and liver. These can be nodular or diffuse in appearance and indistinguishable from lymphoid leucosis. This has been seen in chicken flocks following the administration of a REV contaminated fowlpox vaccine.
- **Chicken non-bursal lymphoma** – These can be seen in some lines of chicken following infection with spleen necrosis or chick syncytial strains of REV.
- **Turkey lymphoma** – These are chronic and characterised by gross lymphoid infiltrations of liver, intestines, spleen and other visceral organs. The liver and spleen can be noticeably enlarged and the intestines often show thickened annular lesions.

## Pathogenesis

Once REV infection is established in a bird it proceeds down one of two pathways and these determine the outcome. The first is a persisting viraemia in the absence of antibody and is associated with higher rates of vertical transmission and tumour formation.

In birds exposed at hatching or later the most common consequence is a transient viraemia followed by the development of antibodies. Transient infection, especially in older birds, rarely results in vertical transmission, immunosuppression or tumour development.

## Diagnosis

Diagnosis requires the presence of typical gross and microscopic lesions coupled with the confirmation of the presence of REV.

## Differential diagnosis

Conditions to consider include Marek's disease, lymphoid leucosis and other tumours.