

BETTER PERFORMANCE OF PIGLETS BORN FROM UNISTRAIN® PRRS VACCINATED AND INFECTED SOWS WITH HETEROLOGOUS PRRSV STRAIN

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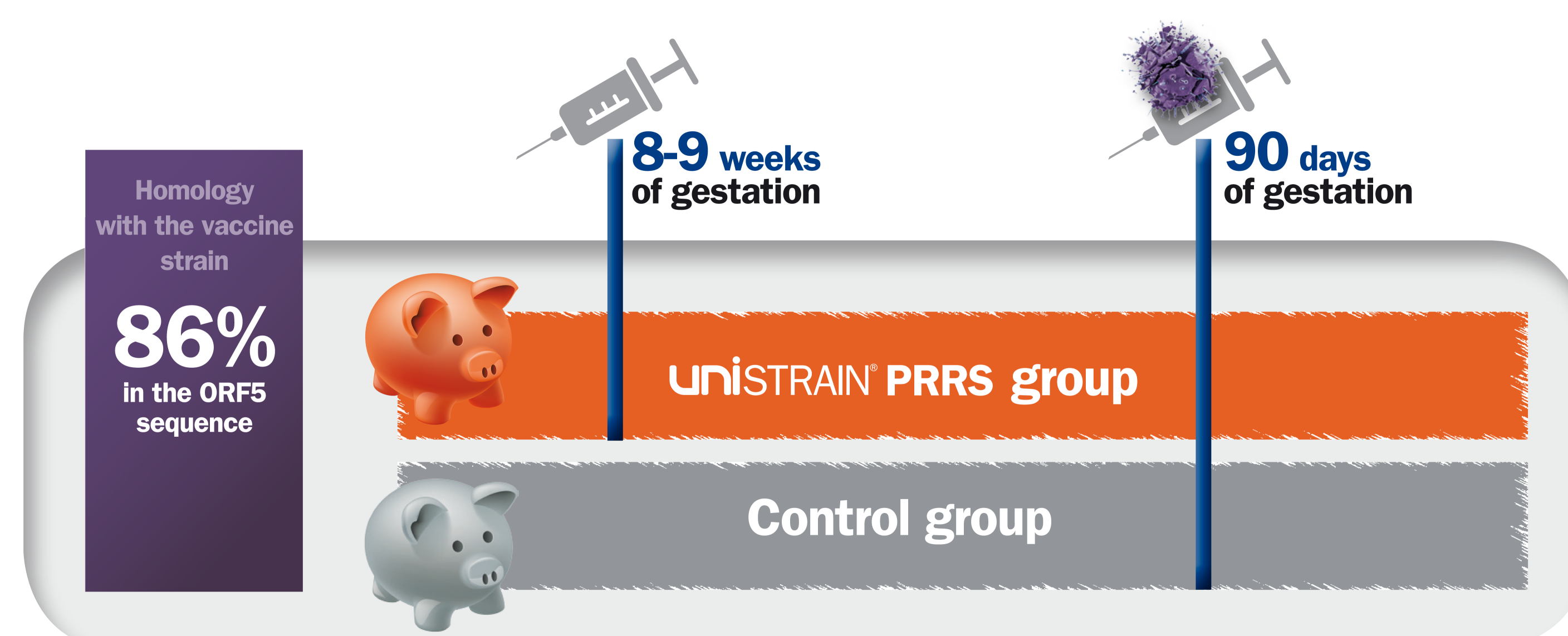
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INTRODUCTION

Porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome virus (PRRSV) can be transmitted from females to piglets during late gestation (1). Surviving neonates can exhibit the respiratory form (2) or be more susceptible to secondary infections during the lactation period. Piglet lactation performance after a heterologous challenge of PRRSV was compared between piglets born from UNISTRAIN® PRRS vaccinated and non-vaccinated sow.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The vaccine was applied at 8-9 weeks of gestation by IM route to 9 naïve sows. The efficacy was evaluated by means of an IN challenge at 90 days of gestation with a heterologous pathogenic strain of European genotype of the PRRSV (Spanish strain isolated at 2007; 106.54 CCID50 / sow).



RESULTS

The global piglet performance was statistically better in the piglets coming from vaccinated sows:

- Reduction of respiratory distress (10.5% vs.6.5%).
- Increase of mean weaned piglets/sow (5.7 ± 2.0 vs. 11.2 ± 1.4 piglets).
- Higher weights at birth (1.42 ± 0.39 kg vs. 1.54 ± 0.41 kg) and at weaning (6.49 ± 1.47 kg vs. 7.02 ± 0.27 kg). Better average daily gain (ADG) (176.31g vs.194.38g).

CONCLUSIONS

Vaccination of sows with UNISTRAIN PRRS allowed piglets born from PRRSV infected sows to survive and clearly perform better during lactation period.

Figure 1. Percentage of weaned piglets after PRRSV challenge (t-test; $p < 0.05$).

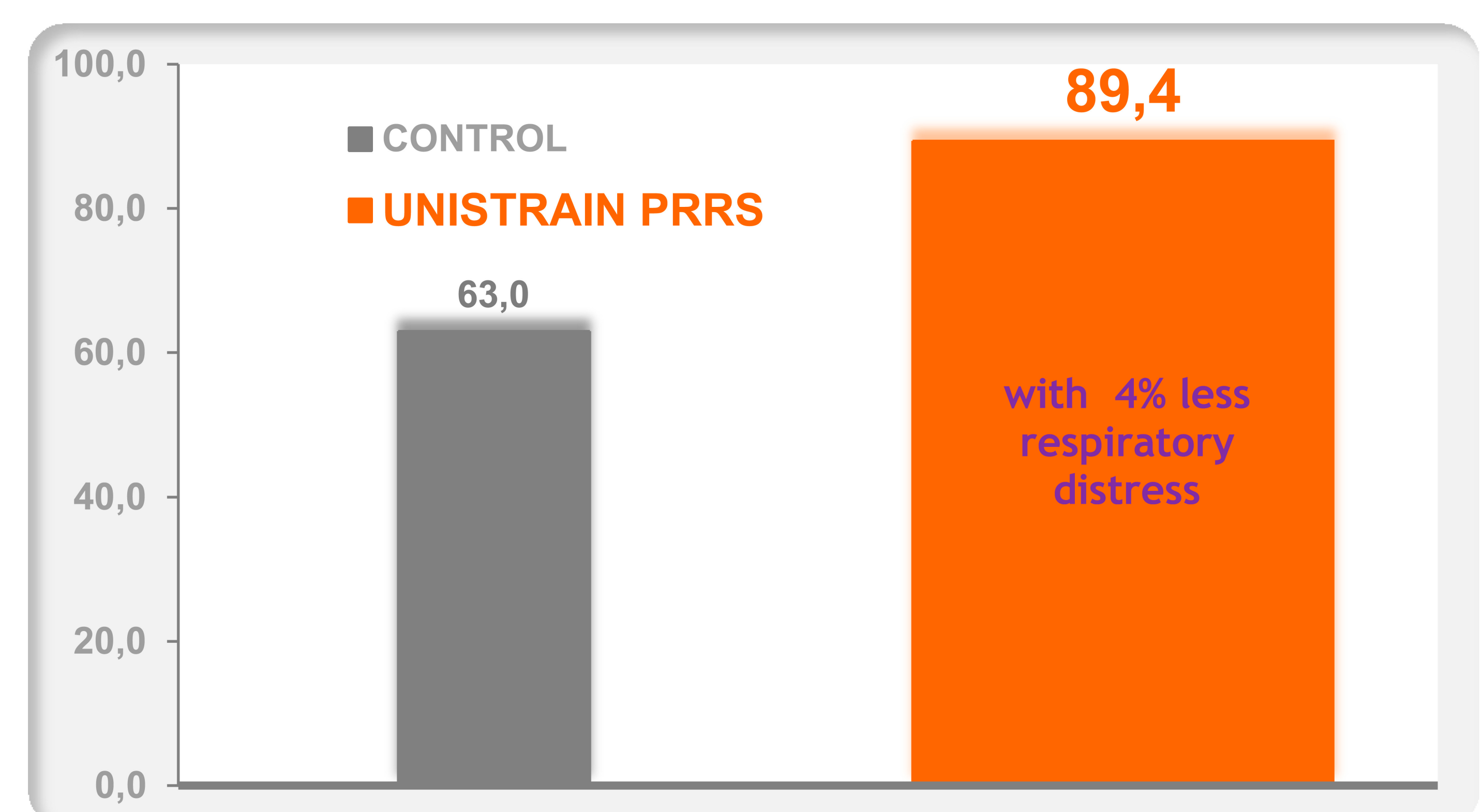
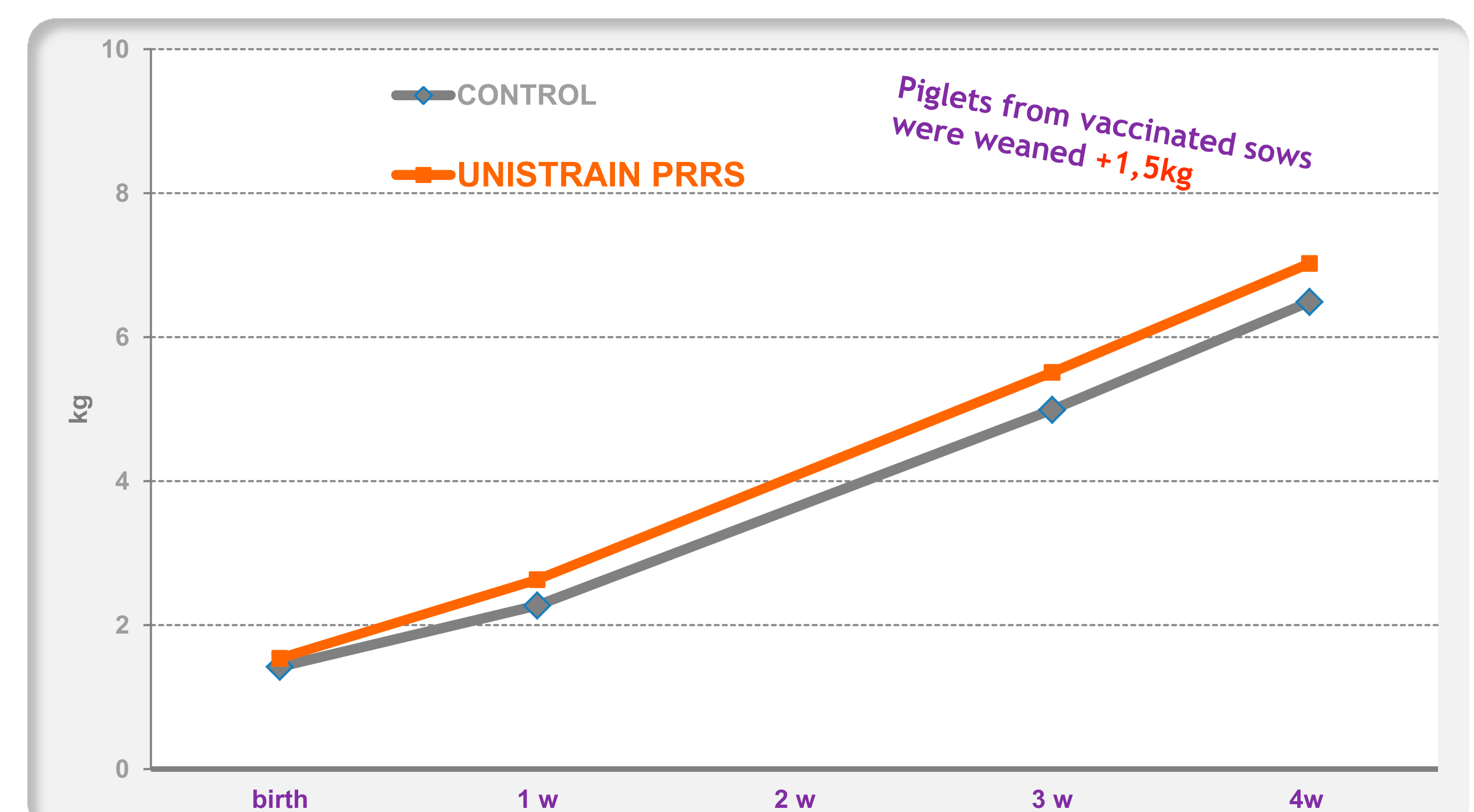


Figure 2. Piglet weight during lactation (t-test; $p < 0.05$).



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