

Characterization of fowl adenoviruses from outbreaks of inclusion body hepatitis/hydropericardium syndrome in Chile

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Three fowl adenovirus (FAV) isolates (341, 344, and 215) obtained during 1996-97 from field outbreaks of inclusion body hepatitis/hydropericardium syndrome (IBH/HPS) affecting broilers and broiler breeders in Chile were characterized by virus neutralization tests (VNTs) and restriction enzyme analysis of a DNA fragment. Furthermore, the pathologic characteristics of one of these FAV isolates (FAV 341) was studied in experimentally infected chickens. The VNTs conducted with isolates 341 and 344 against reference strains and antisera belonging to each of 12 FAV serotypes demonstrated a close antigenic relationship with strain KR5 of the FAV serotype 4. Polymerase chain reaction using the primers H3/H4 and subsequent HpaII digestion was used for serotype identification of isolates 341 and 215. The length of the PCR products and the restriction profiles of isolates 341, 215, and the reference strain KR5 (FAV4) were identical. The present results confirmed the classification of all three is