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Evaluation of the protective potentials of *Clostridium perfringens* NetB toxin-based vaccine in Broiler Chickens

A thesis submitted by

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LIST OF ABBREVIATION

Abbreviation	Definition
BHI	Brain heart infusion
BWG	Body weight growth
C.perfringens	*Clostridium perfringens*
cpa	*Clostridium perfringens* alpha toxin
cpb	*Clostridium perfringens* beta toxin
CPE	*Clostridium perfringens* enterotoxin
cDNA	Complementary DNA
CFU/gm	Colony forming unit per gram
CFU/ml	Colony forming unit per milliliter
CMM	cooked meat medium
CT	Cycle threshold
ELISA	Enzyme-linked ImmunoSorbent Assay
EM	*Eimeria maxima*
etx	Epsilon toxin gene
FCR	Feed conversion ratio
GAPDH	Glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehyrogenase
gDNA	Genomic DNA
GIT	Gastrointestinal tract
hrs	Hours
IgA	Immunoglobulin A
IgE	Immunoglobulin E
IL	Interleukin
ISI	I See Inside

LSD	Least significance difference
NE	Necrotic enteritis
NetB	Necrotic enteritis toxin B
ng/ml	Nano gram per milliliter
NK-cell	Natural killer cell
NOS	Nitric oxide synthase
NSP	Non- starch polysaccharides
OD	Optical density
PBS	Phosphate buffer saline
PCR	Polymerase chain reaction
PFT	pore forming toxins
PIgR	Poly-Ig receptor
plc	Phospholipase C
rNetB	Recombinant Net B
SBA	Sheep blood agar
SIgA	Secretory immunoglobulin A
SPC	Soy protein concentrated
SPF	Specific pathogen free
SPSS	Statistical product and service solutions
TGY	Tryptone glucose yeast
TPG	Trypticase peptone glucose
TSC	Tryptose Sulphite Cycloserine

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ABSTRACT

A total of 200 samples representing intestinal content of apparently healthy and diseased broiler chickens showing enteric disorder symptoms and lesions suspected to be due to necrotic enteritis, were examined by conventional and molecular methods. *C.perfringens* was isolated with an incidence of 10% (10/100) from apparently healthy chickens, and with an incidence of 25% (25/100) from diseased chickens. Twenty isolates of *C.perfringens* were proved to be toxigenic with an incidence of 57.1% (20/35), while 42.8% (15/35) were non-toxigenic. Multiplex PCR was performed to toxinotype the 35 *C.perfringens* isolates, the result showed that all isolates were positive for the alpha toxin gene. Experimental infection with multiple doses of *Clostridium perfringens* toxoidtype A, C, Net B given S/C in chicken resulted in subclinical necrotic enteritis (NE) diagnosed by decreased body weight gain and. histopathological lesions in intestine and liver. Intestinal samples were collected at 3,7,14 and 37 days after vaccination for enumerating *Clostridium perfringens* in all groups. Vaccinated groups showed a decreas in *Clostridium perfringens* count compared with negative and positive groups. Immune response to vaccination by toxoid of type A, type C and type A Net B positive, was estimated. The effect of toxoid administration on intestinal secretory immunoglobuline revealed significant increase in SIgA in all vaccinated groups. Moreover, detection of interleukin 4 also gave a high level in group (2) vaccinated with toxoid A+ NetB while Net B positive type C group (3) showed a steady regulated level. Regarding interleukin 10, regulation has been shown in all immunized groups compared with control –ve group. Histopathological changes in the intestine and liver of control positive group were estimated 14 days' post challenge and revealed focal necrotic areas with leukocytic infiltration and multifocal areas of mononuclear cells and or heterophillic infiltration in the portal area of liver. Moreover, severe epithelial and goblet cells hyperplasia of intestine have been detected, while immunized and control –ve group revealed normal histological structure.

Keywords: NE, *C.perfringens*, incidence, beta like toxin, broilers.