Epidemiological update on the prevalence of *Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae* serotypes in Spain

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Background & Objectives

The objective of this study was to broaden current knowledge on *Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae* (*APP*) serotypes involved in clinical cases in Spain and to evaluate their possible temporal evolution.

Materials & Methods

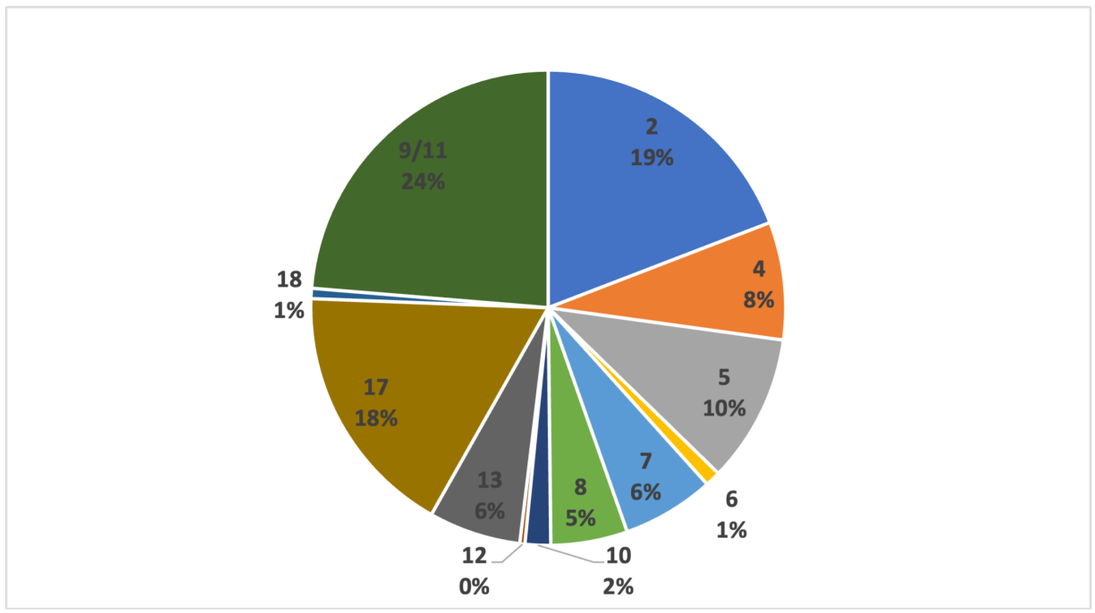
A total of 492 *Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae* isolates from retrospective clinical cases between January 2023 to September 2025 were processed in six diagnostic laboratories situated in different geographic areas of Spain. Serotyping was performed on 288 isolates, via serotype-specific PCR. The seasonal frequency of cases, the most common serotypes and their development over time were examined in comparison with previous data from 2017 to 2022 (same systematic).

Results

Clinical cases of *APP* were detected every month of the year, although winter and spring were the seasons in which prevalence of cases was higher (41% and 32% respectively) (Graph 1).

The most prevalent serotypes found were 9/11 (24%), 2 (19%), 17 (17%) and 5 (10%), and were found equally all around the country. The less prevalent serotypes found were 12 (0.4%), 18 (0.7%), 6 (1%), and 10 (1.7%) (Graph 2). This data differs from previous data, where most prevalent serotypes were 2 (16%), 9/11 (14%), 4 (14%) and 10 (14%).

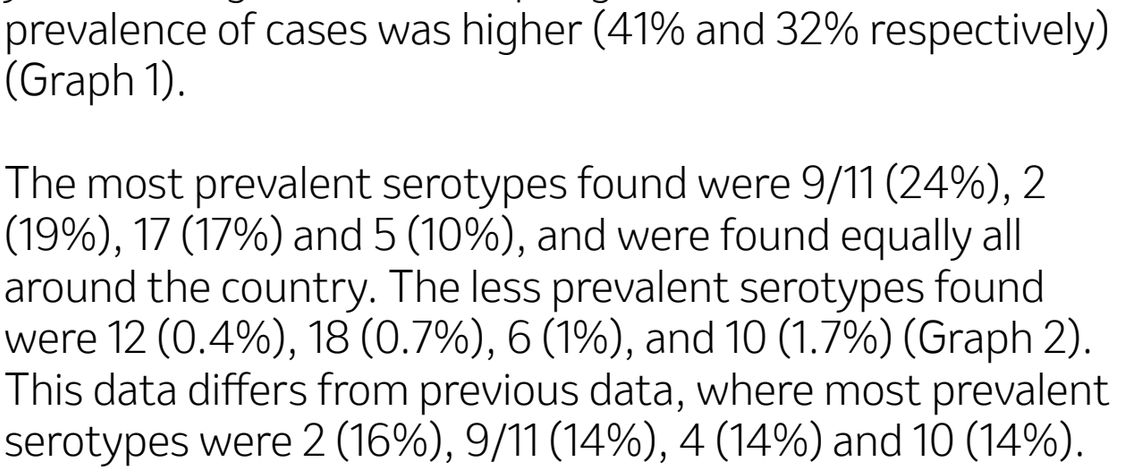
The only serotypes not found were 1, 3, 14, 15 and 16. These data partially coincide with previous years' findings, when the only serotypes not found were 1, 12, 14, 15 and 16.



Graph 2: Prevalence of *APP* serotypes

Discussion & Conclusion

The results of this retrospective study demonstrate that most *APP* serotypes circulate in Spain and are connected to clinical disease. Of note is the increase in serotype 17, which has become one of the most prevalent ones.



Graph 1: Monthly distribution of *APP* cases from January 2023 to September 2025

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