

Special Issue

Reproductive Endocrinology Assays: From Hormone Detection to a Clinically Relevant Decision

Message from the Guest Editors

Find the target: The number of hormones and their metabolites suitable for assay is striking. The identification of potential markers or family of markers of interest requires knowledge of physiology and physio-pathology. On the other hand, serum is a commonly used and reliable matrix, but others could provide relevant results with adequate pre-analytic methods and could be easier to collect, such as saliva, feces, urine, milk or hairs. Choose the weapon: Choosing an assay method depends on its price and the target's nature, size and stability. In veterinary medicine, immuno-assays are cheap, easy to perform and widely used. However, mass spectrometry coupled to chromatography increases sensitivity, specificity and reproducibility for small molecules and enable multi-hormones assays. Elude confusions: Hormone and precursor production is often mediated by different factors, either internal or external. Associated pathologies and physiological influences can lead to internal confusions, whereas environment and management will interfere as external confusion factors. Prospective evaluations of these influencing factors and their study is a key for success.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Animals is an on-line open access journal that was first published in 2011. *Animals* adheres to rigorous peerreview and editorial processes and publishes only high quality manuscripts that address important issues in the many varied disciplines that involve animals, with a focus on animal science, animal welfare and animal ethics. *Animals* is covered in the Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE) in Web of Science, with the latest Impact Factor: 2.7 (2024, ranks 15/86 (Q1) in 'Agriculture, Dairy & Animal Science'; 21/170 (Q1) in 'Veterinary Sciences'), 5-Year Impact Factor: 3.2.

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