

## Brucellosis: A Major Concern in Livestock and Public Health

The bacterial illness known as brucellosis, which can infect both humans and animals, is brought on by the genus *Brucella*. The illness poses a serious threat to the public's health and can result in huge financial losses for the livestock industry. With over 500,000 new cases recorded year, it is endemic in many regions of the world, including Asia, Africa, and the Mediterranean area. The illness can result in abortion, stillbirth, and decreased milk production in animals, and it has a considerable impact on the productivity of cattle.

**Symptoms:** Animals with brucellosis experience abortion, decreased fertility, weight loss, weakness, and lameness as symptoms. In humans, the condition results in a flu-like illness that can linger for several weeks or months and include fever, headaches, joint discomfort, and exhaustion.

**Transmission:** Direct contact with sick animals, consumption of tainted food and water, and inhalation of tainted aerosols are all ways that the disease can be spread. Farmers, veterinarians, and employees of abattoirs who come into contact with diseased animals frequently run a significant risk of getting the illness.

**Diagnosis** Serological assays, including the Rose Bengal Test (RBT), complement fixation test (CFT), and enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA), are the mainstay of brucellosis diagnosis in animals. In people, the diagnosis is made via PCR-based techniques, serological testing, or blood cultures.

Prevention and Control Combinations of methods, such as immunisation, culling of diseased animals, improved animal husbandry techniques, and correct disposal of aborted fetuses and placentas, are used to manage and prevent brucellosis in both animals and people. Animal vaccination has been proven to be a successful preventative approach, but it necessitates strict monitoring and surveillance to stop the disease from spreading. Personal protective equipment, stringent hygiene standards, and staying away from unpasteurized dairy products are all examples of preventative strategies used in humans.

Animals, humans, and other species are all susceptible to the deadly and economically significant disease known as brucellosis. It can result in abortion, infertility, and decreased milk production in livestock, which can result in large financial losses. It can damage the quality of life and productivity in people by causing fever, joint discomfort, and other symptoms that can last for months or even years.

A multidisciplinary strategy involving veterinary professionals, public health officials, policymakers, and stakeholders is necessary to prevent and control brucellosis. Vaccination is one of the best methods for managing brucellosis in livestock. Several vaccines, notably *B. abortus* S19 and *B. melitensis* Rev 1, are accessible for use in animals. The incidence of brucellosis is decreased with vaccination, which also increases animal welfare and output.

Regular testing, isolation and culling of affected animals, stringent biosecurity measures, and immunisation are further preventative and controlling measures for brucellosis in livestock. For instance, to stop the spread of the disease on dairy farms, affected animals should be isolated and treated right away. Milk should also be tested often for *Brucella* contamination.

Controlling brucellosis in wildlife, especially in reservoir animals like bison and elk, is essential for stopping the disease's spread to cattle and people. In some places, brucellosis has been successfully managed through the use of population management techniques, habitat change, and wildlife vaccine and culling programmes.

As a result, brucellosis continues to pose a serious problem for livestock producers, public health officials, and decision-makers all over the world. We can, however, strive towards the eradication of this crippling disease with a thorough and coordinated strategy that includes immunisation, testing, quarantine, and biosecurity measures, as well as the management of wildlife reservoirs. The long-term control of brucellosis will also depend heavily on the ongoing study and creation of fresh vaccinations and diagnostic devices.

In conclusion, brucellosis poses serious risks to both public health and the animal sector. The disease is a serious hazard to human health, and it has a substantial financial impact on the livestock sector. The treatment and prevention of brucellosis necessitate a multifaceted strategy that includes immunisation, culling, and good animal husbandry techniques. Strict cleanliness standards and staying away from tainted food and water can stop the spread of the illness in people. To stop the disease's spread and lessen its effects on the general population's health and the cattle business, it is crucial to increase knowledge of it among farmers, veterinarians, and the general public.