

Research Project: Germ spectrum and current status of antimicrobial resistance in navel infections of calves

In the course of a support programme for young female scientists in the clinical-infectiological or food hygiene field of the Department of Veterinary Medicine at FU Berlin, Dr. Annegret Stock of the Clinic for Ruminants and Swine received funding for the support of her career for three years. Objective of the supported project is the exploration of type and degree of severity of navel infections of new born calves. In this project, a special focus lies on the germ spectrum of navel infections and their sensitivity against antimicrobial substances. Based on these study results, established treatment routines, which are usually based on experience in the field, will be confirmed or revised if necessary. Further, the study results shall provide evidence of the existence and the patterns of differences between farms that require farm individual treatment routines. Besides the treatment of navel infections, preventive measures play an important role in the field. Therefore, a goal of the study is to estimate whether common methods and approved products for navel disinfection are appropriate for this purpose. A more targeted use of preventive measures and treatments against navel infections are in line with animal welfare, can reduce the use of antibiotics in calf rearing and can minimise the risk of development of antimicrobial resistance.



Figure 1: Calf with navel-ill