

What is Peste Des Petits Ruminants (PPR)?

July 6, 2023 • vajiramandravi.com



About is Peste Des Petits Ruminants (PPR):

- PPR is a **highly contagious viral disease of sheep and goats** with **high mortality**.
- It is **caused by a virus of the family paramyxoviridae and genus morbillivirus**. It is closely related to other members of the genus, including the rinderpest virus, measles virus, and canine distemper virus.
- **Symptoms:**
 - PPRV causes disease with an **array of clinical signs**. It also **causes immunosuppression**, which makes affected animals more likely to pick up other infections.
 - **Clinical signs of PPR: Fever, Eye and nasal discharges, Sores in the mouth, Diarrhoea, Listlessness**, Respiratory signs (coughing and pneumonia), Abortion and death, with case **fatality**

rates as high as 90% (though more commonly around 20%).

- **Transmission:**

- PPR is mainly spread during **close contact when a susceptible animal inhales the virus from infected animals' coughing and sneezing.**
- Transmission can also occur **indirectly through contact with infected objects** (fomites) **such as feed troughs, bedding** etc.
- **Sources of PPRV include secretions from the eyes, nose, and mouth** of infected animals, **as well as their faeces.**

- Once introduced, the **virus can infect up to 90 percent of an animal herd**, and the disease **kills anywhere from 30 to 70 percent of infected animals.**

- The PPR virus **does not infect humans.**

- **Disease prevalence:**

- PPR was **first described in 1942 in Côte d'Ivoire.** Since then the disease has spread to large regions in **Africa, the Middle East and Asia.**
- **In India,** the disease outbreaks have been reported in **Himachal Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Telangana, Karnataka** and **Chhattisgarh.**

- **Currently, a global initiative driven by the** Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (**FAO**) and the **World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) exists to eradicate PPR by 2030.**

Q1) What is immunosuppression?

The suppression of the body's innate ability to ward off disease and infection is known as immunosuppression. This suppression may be the result of a disease that targets the immune system, such as the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), or as a consequence of pharmaceutical agents used to fight certain conditions, like cancer.

Source: [Explainer: Goat plague sends alarm bells ringing in Himachal Pradesh](#)

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/what-is-pestes-des-petits-ruminants-ppr/>

© Vajiram & Ravi. For personal use only.