



Hawaii Scientist Creates Test for Pig Disease Transfer

Description

A new initiative is underway in Honolulu to protect Hawaii's hunters from a bacteria found in wild pigs, which can pose health risks to humans.

Jessica Jacob, a researcher and Assistant Biology Professor at Hawaii Pacific University, is leading a team to develop the first test kit for hunters in Hawaii. This kit aims to detect Brucellosis, a serious bacterial infection found in wild pigs that can make people ill.

Brucellosis was once common in U.S. agricultural animals but has been largely eradicated. However, it remains in wild animals. In Hawaii, the infection is more common among wild pigs than on the mainland, with estimates suggesting 10 to 25% of pigs may carry it.

The disease can pass from animals to humans, causing flu-like symptoms and potentially leading to miscarriages. Infection usually occurs through contact with infected fluids during butchering or by consuming undercooked meat.

Tyler Robinson, a veteran hunter, stresses the importance of safely handling harvested pigs. He notes a lack of testing options for hunters, highlighting the potential benefits of Jacob's test kit for early detection and proper meat handling.

Jacob advises taking precautions when handling wild pigs, such as wearing gloves and cooking meat properly to prevent transmission. Although Brucellosis is serious, it is not immediately life-threatening.

Jacob's team plans to distribute test kits and protective equipment by the end of the year, depending on funding. They hope to have diagnostic kits available for field testing within two years, aiming to support community safety and awareness among hunters.

Vocabulary List:

1. **initiative** //ɪˈnɪʃətɪv// (noun): a new plan or action to solve something
2. **Brucellosis** //bru:kəˈloʊsɪs// (noun): a bacterial disease people can get from animals
3. **infection** //ɪnˈfɛkʃən// (noun): when harmful germs enter and make someone sick
4. **detect** //dɪˈtɛkt// (verb): to find or notice something is present
5. **eradicated** //ɪˈrædɪ,keɪtɪd// (verb): removed completely so it no longer exists
6. **transmission** //trænsˈmɪʃən// (noun): the passing of a disease between people or animals



Comprehension Questions

Multiple Choice

1. Who is leading the initiative to develop a test kit for hunters in Hawaii?
Option: Tyler Robinson
Option: Jessica Jacob
Option: John Smith
Option: Emily White
2. What is the main purpose of the test kit being developed?
Option: To enhance hunting techniques
Option: To detect Brucellosis
Option: To track wild pig populations
Option: To prevent hunting accidents
3. What percentage of wild pigs in Hawaii might carry Brucellosis?
Option: 5 to 10%
Option: 10 to 25%
Option: 25 to 50%
Option: 50 to 75%
4. What is a potential consequence of Brucellosis infection in humans?
Option: Enhanced immune response
Option: Weight gain
Option: Flu-like symptoms
Option: Increased energy levels
5. When does Jacob's team hope to have the diagnostic kits available for field testing?
Option: By the end of the year
Option: Within six months
Option: Within two years
Option: Next year
6. What does Tyler Robinson emphasize about handling harvested pigs?
Option: It should be done without equipment



- Option: It's unnecessary to take precautions
- Option: Safe handling is important
- Option: It should be avoided altogether

True-False

- 7. Brucellosis can be transmitted from animals to humans.
- 8. According to the text, Brucellosis is immediately life-threatening.
- 9. Jessica Jacob is a graduate student at Hawaii Pacific University.
- 10. The test kits will be available for distribution by the end of the year.
- 11. The majority of wild pigs in Hawaii do not carry Brucellosis.
- 12. Tyler Robinson is a novice hunter.

Gap-Fill

- 13. Brucellosis can cause flu-like symptoms and may lead to _____ complications.
- 14. Jessica Jacob is developing a test kit to detect _____ in wild pigs.
- 15. Infection usually occurs through contact with infected fluids during _____
or consumption of undercooked meat.
- 16. Tyler Robinson highlights the importance of safely _____ harvested pigs.
- 17. Jacob's team hopes to support community safety and awareness among _____
through their efforts.
- 18. Precautions include wearing gloves and cooking meat _____ to prevent transmission.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Jessica Jacob 2. To detect Brucellosis 3. 10 to 25% 4. Flu-like symptoms 5. Within two years



6. Safe handling is important

True-False: 7. True 8. False 9. False 10. True 11. True 12. False

Gap-Fill: 13. miscarriages 14. Brucellosis 15. butchering 16. handling 17. hunters 18. properly

Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. What is Brucellosis?

Option: A type of cancer

Option: A bacterial infection

Option: A viral infection

Option: A genetic disorder

2. What type of skin cancer is melanoma?

Option: Non-invasive

Option: Invasive

Option: Benign

Option: Pre-cancerous

3. What is the process of identifying a disease called?

Option: Prognosis

Option: Screening

Option: Diagnosis

Option: Detection

4. What treatment often involves the use of drugs to kill cancer cells?

Option: Radiation therapy

Option: Chemotherapy

Option: Surgery

Option: Immunotherapy

5. What type of stress is related to free radicals in the body?

Option: Cellular

Option: Oxidative

Option: Metabolic

Option: Neural

6. What term describes the likely outcome of a disease?

Option: Diagnosis

Option: Prognosis



Option: Symptom

Option: Infection

7. What is the term for testing for a disease before symptoms appear?

Option: Screening

Option: Diagnosis

Option: Eradication

Option: Transmission

8. What term describes the chemical processes that occur within a living organism?

Option: Metabolism

Option: Digestion

Option: Excretion

Option: Respiration

9. What do you call an individual who carries a disease without showing symptoms?

Option: Victim

Option: Patient

Option: Carrier

Option: Infected individual

10. What term refers to a non-cancerous tumor?

Option: Malignant

Option: Benign

Option: Invasive

Option: Combative

Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

11. The transmission of Brucellosis can occur through contaminated food and _____.

12. Modern techniques help detect melanoma at an early _____ in the progression.

13. Many patients take dietary supplements to aid in their overall _____ during treatment.

14. Patients often feel overwhelmed when facing a cancer _____ like chemotherapy.

15. The virus hijacks healthy cells to reproduce and create an _____ within the body.

16. Therapists often guide patients to reconnect with their _____ for better mental



health.

17. With effective treatment, it is possible for some cancers to be completely _____ from the body.

18. High levels of tension can negatively impact metabolism and _____ processes.

19. Certain genetic mutations can increase the risk of developing _____ like melanoma.

20. Invasive procedures often carry more risks than _____ options.

Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

21. Recognising the early signs of a disease can lead to more effective treatment.
22. Health initiatives aim to promote awareness and prevent the spread of diseases.
23. Regular screening can help detect diseases in their earliest stages.
24. Benign tumors are non-cancerous and do not spread to other parts of the body.
25. A correct diagnosis is crucial for deciding the best course of treatment.
26. Melanoma is a serious form of skin cancer that requires immediate attention.
27. Understanding the transmission of infections is important for public health.
28. Chemotherapy is often used in the treatment of various types of cancer.
29. Metabolism refers to the process by which your body converts food into energy.
30. Genetic mutations can have significant impacts on an individual's health.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. A bacterial infection 2. Invasive 3. Diagnosis 4. Chemotherapy 5. Oxidative 6. Prognosis 7. Screening 8. Metabolism 9. Carrier 10. Benign

Gap-Fill: 11. water 12. stage 13. health 14. diagnosis 15. infection 16. emotions 17. erased 18. healing 19. cancers 20. non-invasive

Matching sentence: 1. recognising 2. initiatives 3. screening 4. benign 5. diagnosis 6. melanoma 7. transmission



8. chemotherapy 9. metabolism 10. mutations

CATEGORY

1. Health - LEVEL4

POST TAG

1. B2
2. English comprehension
3. ESL learning
4. esl news
5. Hawaii researcher
6. Level 4
7. Wild pig disease

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