

## Nucleotide sequence of the gene coding for the peplomer protein (=spike protein) of infectious bronchitis virus, strain D274

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The sequence of the peplomer protein of strain D274 of avian coronavirus IBV has been determined by sequencing overlapping cDNA-clones against the genomic RNA of the virus. Initial cDNA-clones were isolated from a library using a clone containing the peplomer gene of IBV strain M41 as a probe (1). The underlined R (=A or T) at position 2349 indicates a difference in nucleotide sequence between two cDNA clones resulting in an uncertainty in the amino acid sequence of the peplomer protein. The peplomer protein of IBV is a transmembrane glycoprotein which is proteolytically processed into two noncovalently bound subunits, S1 (coding region bp 67-1680) and S2 (coding region bp 1681-3528). The start of each subunit is underlined.

The sequence of the peplomer gene was compared with sequences of several other IBV strains (2, 3). The peplomer gene appeared to be most similar to those of strains H6/82 and D207; at only 13 or 14 positions (depending on which amino acid is coded at position 2347-2349) a different amino acid was encoded.

The R at position 2349 is T or A

## References:

- (1) Niesters, H.G.M., Lenstra, J.A., Spaan, W.J.M., Zijderveld, A.J., Bleumink-pluym, N.M.C., Hong, F., van Scharrenburg, G.J.M., Horzinek, M.C. and van der Zeijst, B.A.M. (1986) *Virus Res.*, 5, 253-263. (2) Kusters, J.G., Niesters, H.G.M., Lenstra, J.A., Horzinek, M.C., and van der Zeijst, B.A.M. (1989) *Virology*, 169, 217-221. (3) Kusters, J.G., Jager, E.J., Niesters, H.G.M., and van der Zeijst, B.A.M. submitted.