



PIG HEALTH

UPDATE

PIG PRODUCTION NEWSLETTER FROM MSD ANIMAL HEALTH

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Introducing **leeO**



We're delighted to announce that LeeO is coming to Ireland. This innovative swine monitoring application combines connected devices including EID tags to capture and monitor key lifecycle events of individual animals.

LeeO allows key genetic, health, movement and weight information to be recorded and stored for every pig on farm. The easy to use, cloud-based dashboard allows farmers, integrators, research institutions and genetics companies to make data-driven decisions to improve the welfare and productivity of their herds and traceability from farm to fork.

Laura Boyd, LeeO Lead and Key Account Manager, MSD Animal Health has seen the benefits first hand. "Seeing the LeeO system in action on a working farm in the Netherlands was an eye-opener," Laura explained. "Recording information with the tag readers was so simple and the app is really intuitive and straightforward. You could see how the staff had integrated the system into their routines and it was quick and easy to use."



Pig producers are constantly looking at ways to improve performance on farm, whether that is through genetics, feed or animal health. In an industry where margins can be small, it's essential to constantly review productivity.

MSD Animal Health is a global leader in livestock identification, with more than 197 million pigs worldwide identified with an Allflex ear tag. The introduction of LeeO allows the swine industry to harness the power of data technology already available in the poultry and dairy industries.

We produce great, quality pork here in Ireland and LeeO offers the opportunity to integrate more fully with the supply chain.

Anyone who is interested in learning more about LeeO should contact a member of the MSD Animal Health swine team.

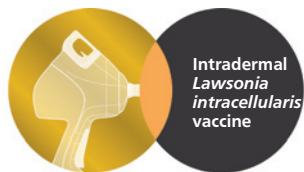
Thomas Gallagher,
Swine Business Unit Director

Leading a new era of swine technology...
together.



leeO | **MSD**
Animal Health
CAPTURING INDIVIDUAL PIG DATA FROM FARROW TO FINISH

IDAL GOES FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH



Intradermal
*Lawsonia
intracellularis*
vaccine

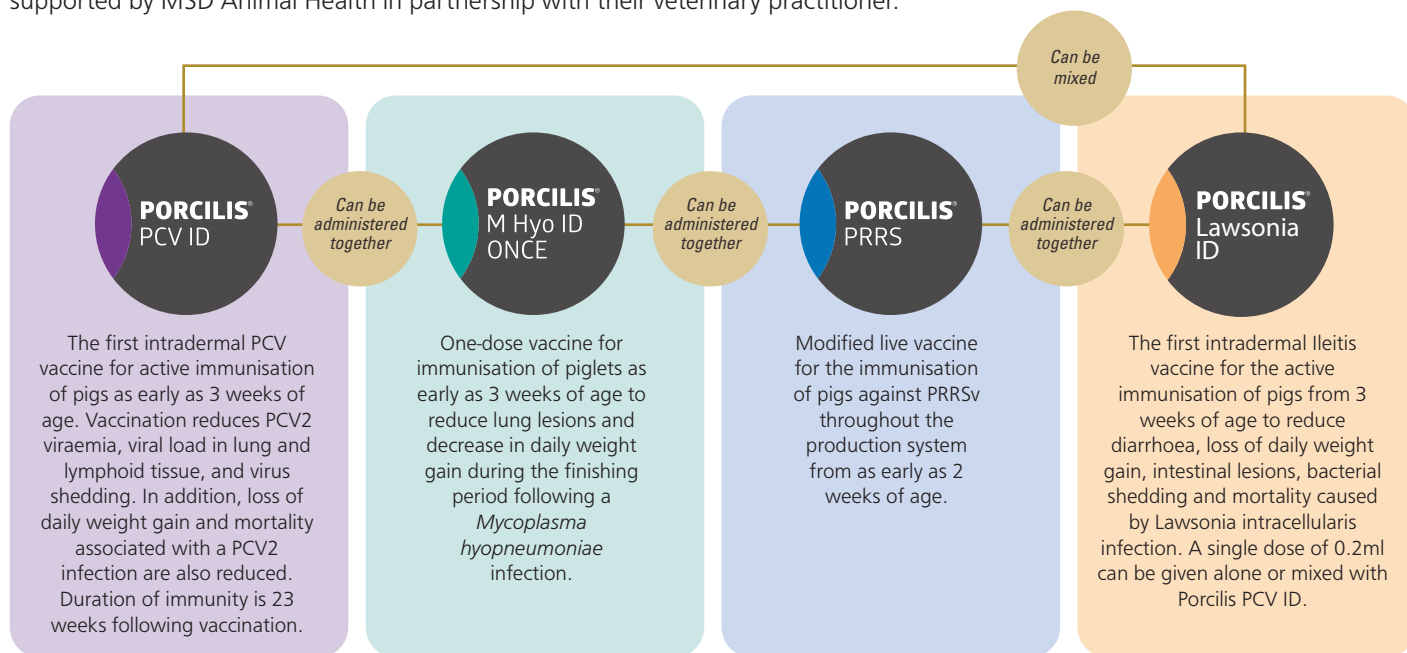
THE IDAL WAY

• Needle-free • Efficacy • Innovation •

For over 10 years, MSD Animal Health has pioneered the use of intradermal vaccination in pigs here in Ireland. Since the launch of Porcilis M Hyo ID Once and Porcilis PRRS in 2012, over 20 million pigs have been vaccinated within these shores.

Over the years vaccines for PCV2 and Lawsonia (ileitis) have also been added to the portfolio allowing farmers flexibility and choice.

Whether intradermal or intramuscular, Porcilis vaccines offer the same peace of mind that pigs are protected against some of the most common diseases. Farms using the IDAL system of vaccination are fully supported by MSD Animal Health in partnership with their veterinary practitioner.



Continuing Development: The IDAL Way

Over the years, the IDAL devices have evolved and updated but MSD Animal Health continues to develop the technology with continued emphasis on user experience, biosecurity and sustainability.

- Single head and twin head devices allow up to four vaccines to be administered to piglets at the same time
- Improved nozzles allow longer intervals between services and reduced maintenance time
- Regular servicing is performed on farm by MSD Animal Health staff or at the local Service Centre in Ireland to ensure biosecurity
- Longer life batteries can now vaccinate up to 3,500 pigs between charges
- On-farm support to provide staff training on device use and best practice for successful intradermal vaccination, as well as helpful videos
- Improved IDAL Way app allows farms to track vaccination schedules and give feedback from previous vaccination sessions



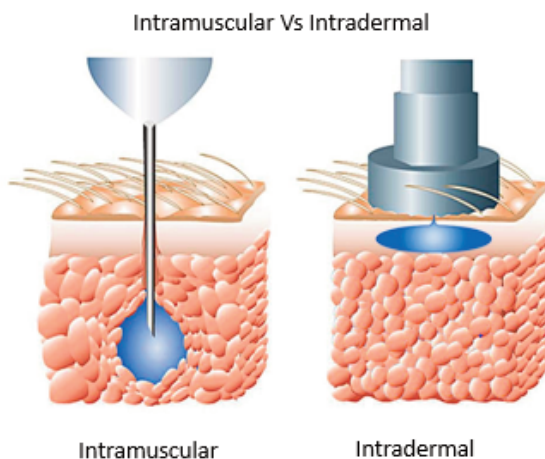
How does Intradermal Vaccination Work?

IDAL works by forcing a small jet-stream of vaccine under pressure through the skin. The vaccine is delivered into the dermis rather than muscle, where specialised cells promote an immune response that has been proven to be as good as traditional intramuscular vaccination.

Only a small amount of vaccine (0.2ml) is required.

The vaccination sites include:

- to the left or right side of the neck (piglets and sows)
- along the muscles of the back (piglets and sows)
- perianal region (sows only)



ON-FARM EXPERTISE



Aidan Byrne recently joined the team covering the region south of Galway in the west and Dublin in the east. Based near Birr, Co Offaly, Aidan worked for over 10 years at Rosderra and brings a wealth of practical experience to his new role.

“IDAL is a really straightforward, easy system to use, but it’s important that the vaccines your vet has prescribed are stored and mixed correctly and that the device itself is properly maintained. It’s always good to go back to a farm to check that good protocols are still in place and to train up any new members of staff. If you think you could do with a refresher, contact your vet about arranging a visit.”

Farmer Case Study

Paul Tully



Five years ago, Paul Tully moved from an intramuscular MSD Animal Health PCV2 and a double-shot *M. hyo* regime to a single administration of Porcilis PCV ID and Porcilis M Hyo ID Once through the twin head IDAL device at 3 to 4 weeks of age. This provides the piglets with 23 weeks’ duration of immunity against PCV and 22 weeks’ protection against *M. hyo*.

“I’m really pleased with the results. We didn’t see any issues in overall performance as a result of the switch. Lung scores are very good and we have no clinical issues on farm. As a result of farm management in conjunction with vaccination, we don’t use any medication for respiratory issues. IDAL is part of that picture and has given us another tool in the box.”



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Disease Update: Post-weaning Diarrhoea: Management without Zinc Oxide



Maureen Prendergast MVB, PhD, MRCVS,
Technical Manager Integrated Livestock, MSD Animal Health

Zinc oxide (ZnO) has been used therapeutically in high concentrations (2500 ppm Zn) in pig feed to treat post weaning diarrhoea (PWD) but concerns regarding environmental and public health have mandated its reduction to 150ppm. High levels of zinc in pig diets cause soil contamination, resulting in threats to the environment, animal and plant life. Such usage contributes to antimicrobial resistance through increasing prevalence and persistence of resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* in pigs.

High therapeutic levels of ZnO effectively treat PWD, mainly caused by *E. coli* and also counteract pathogens such as *Salmonella* and many viruses but nutritional levels of zinc (from 50 to 125 ppm) are essential for enzymatic processes in digestion and respiration. Weaning stress in pigs alters intestinal structure and function, leading to slow growth and post-weaning diarrhoea.

To combat this without high ZnO levels farmers have:

- Adopted improved hygiene and animal management practices emphasising biosecurity, sanitation (wash, disinfect and dry), optimal stocking densities, weaning age, and stress management
- Prioritised colostrum management through adequate piglet ingestion of essential antibodies, nutrition, growth factors and energy within 6 hours of birth
- Modified piglet diets focussing on highly digestible protein sources, controlled protein levels and lactose provision during weaning
- Ensured sufficient clean water intake
- Employed probiotics, prebiotics and acids to bolster gut health, reducing the incidence of PWD and negating the need for high ZnO levels
- Utilised IDAL vaccination pre-weaning to reduce stress, and the incidence and spread of diseases such as PRRS and PCV, at weaning time

Farmers have recently been advised about better managing feed and water intakes post weaning through feeder choice, feed palatability and content to minimise stress and intestinal villous damage. Successfully removing high dose ZnO requires a comprehensive approach and vaccination is pivotal.

Come and say 'hello' to the Pig Team
AT THE
Ploughing Championships

**ENTER OUR COMPETITION
TO WIN A PIG FARM SUPPLIES HAMPER
WORTH €400**



SCAN TO ENTER



Use medicines responsibly.

Legal Category: ROI **POM** NI **POM-V**

Please refer to the product packaging and leaflets for information about side effects, precautions, warnings and contra-indications.

For further information see your veterinary practitioner or contact MSD Animal Health,
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