CHLAMYDOPHILA ABORTION
ENZOOTIC ABORTION OF EWES
OVINE ENZOOTIC ABORTION
(OEA)

The Organism
- *Chlamydophila abortus*
- (previously *chlamydia psittaci* biotype1/serotype1)
- intracellular bacterial species

Epidemiology
- The major source of infection is the placenta and the uterine discharge of aborting ewes
- The main routes of are through ingestion of organisms shed in vaginal fluids and placental membranes at the time of abortion or lambing, or through inhalation of aerosols from the environment
- venereal transmission is a possible route of infection

Clinical Signs
- Abortion occurs in late pregnancy
- ewes appear to suffer no systemic effects, but retained placenta and metritis can be sequel in goats
- Additional losses are caused by stillbirths and weak-born lambs and kids which die soon after birth.

Post Mortem Lesions
- Aborted fetuses typically have no gross abnormalities
- Placental cotyledons are necrotic and hemorrhagic, and the intercotyledonary areas are thickened, edematous, and leathery

Clinical Diagnosis
- Case history
- Clinical sign
- P.M sign

Differential Diagnosis
- Brucellosis
- Trichomonosis
- Neosporosis
- Vibriosis
- Leptospirosis
- Listeriosis

Laboratory Diagnosis

- Histologically, there may be mononuclear cell infiltration of hepatic portal areas of Aborted fetuses and multifocal areas of hepatitis.
- The organisms can be observed in tightly-packed sheets within the cytoplasm of swollen trophoblasts in formalin-fixed tissue samples, or in direct placental smears appropriate staining methods

Prevention and Control

- Ewes that have aborted should be isolated from the rest of the flock.
- There should be proper hygiene of the lambing areas and in the disposal of aborted materials.
- Tetracycline has been used in early pregnant sheep within an aborting flock to attempt to reduce subsequent abortions

Vaccines

- Two types of vaccine are currently available but there is yet no vaccine that has excellent efficiency against this disease.
- ➤ Killed vaccines
- ➤ live vaccine