



# Assessment of toxicity to food contaminants as mycotoxins in pigs: development and use of ex vivo organ culture models as an alternative to animal experimentation.

Delphine Payros

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Submitted on 21 Jan 2025

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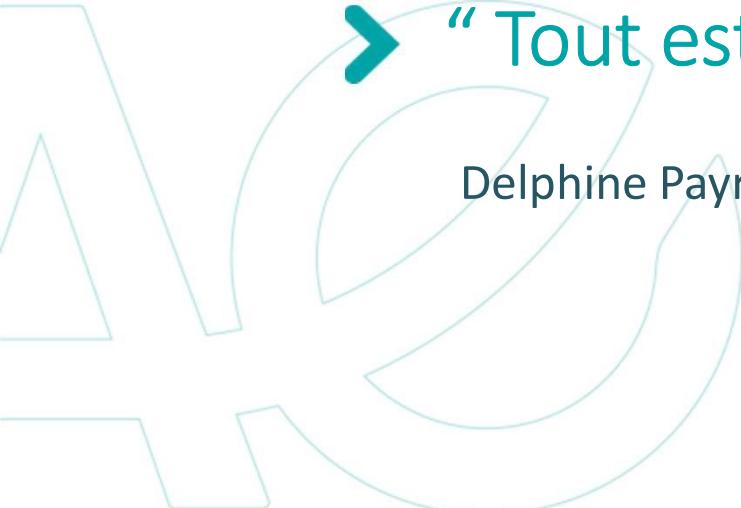
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# ➤ Assessment of toxicity to food contaminants as mycotoxins in pigs: development and use of *ex vivo* organ culture models as an alternative to animal experimentation.

Delphine Payros, Séminaire du réseau HOLO-AE, Paris, 17 décembre 2024





# “Tout est bon dans le cochon.”

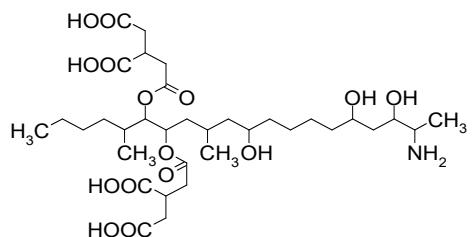
Delphine Payros, Séminaire du réseau HOLO-AE, Paris, 17 décembre 2024



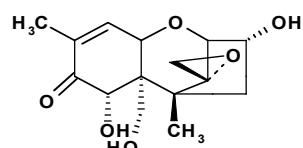
**INRAe**

## ➤ Mycotoxins - generalities

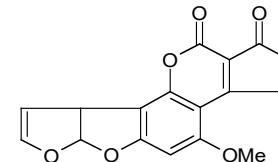
- Fungal secondary metabolites that exert toxic effects on animals and human
- More than 1000 mycotoxins have been described
- The chemical structure of mycotoxins is very diverse
- Chemical structure and toxic properties of mycotoxins are conserved during both storage and processing/cooking of food or feed



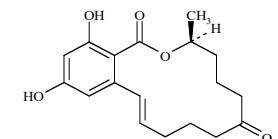
Fumonisin B1



Deoxynivalenol - DON

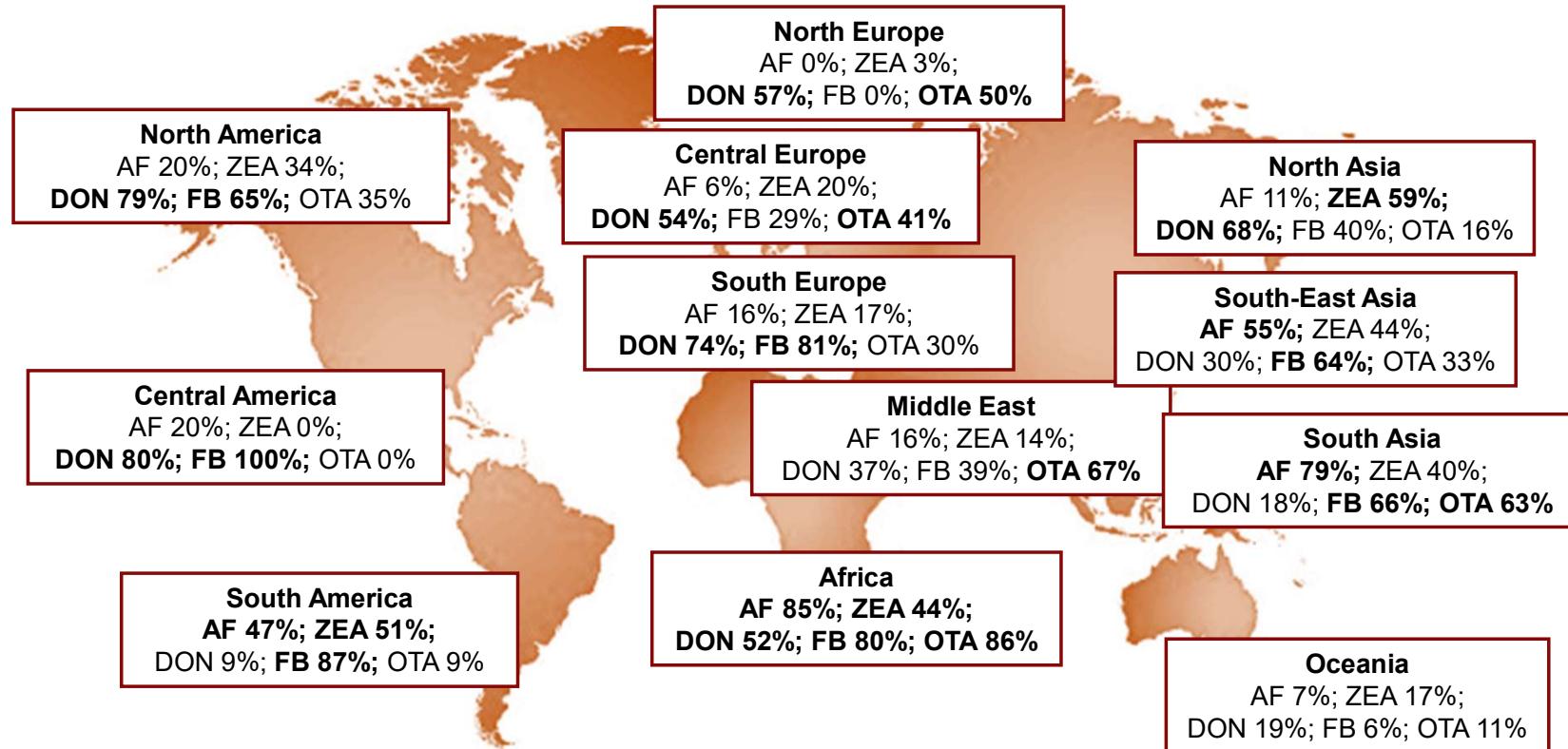


Aflatoxin B1



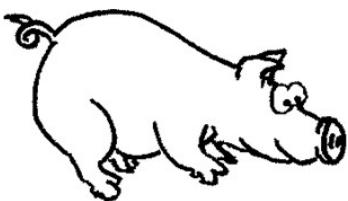
Zearalenone

## ➤ Mycotoxins : a global threat



**60-70% of raw materials are contaminated**

## ➤ Multiple effects of mycotoxins on pigs



Pig

- Pigs are very sensitive to mycotoxins
- High percentage of cereals and their by-products are contaminated by mycotoxins in pig diet
- Important economical losses in farms and industries

Symptoms	Mycotoxins					
	AFB1 AFB2	OTA	DON	T2 HT2	FB1 FB2	ZEN
Anorexia	+	+	+++	+++	+	
Growth	+++	+	+++	++	+	
Liver damage	+++	+			++	
Kidney damage			+++		+	
Abortion					+	++
Infertility						+++
Vulvovaginitis						+++
Pulmonary oedema					+++	
Immunomodulation	+++		++	++	+++	+

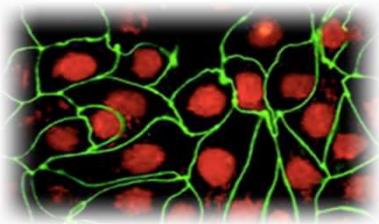
DON



Deoxynivalenol

## ➤ Models to investigate the intestinal response on pigs

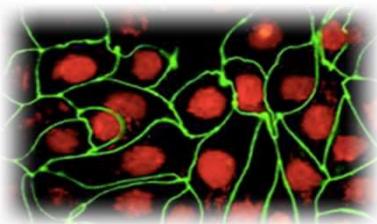
*In vitro*  
epithelial cells



- Single cell type
- Mechanistic analysis
- Limited cell complexity

## ➤ Models to investigate the intestinal response on pigs

*In vitro*  
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- Mechanistic analysis
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*Ex vivo*  
intestinal explants

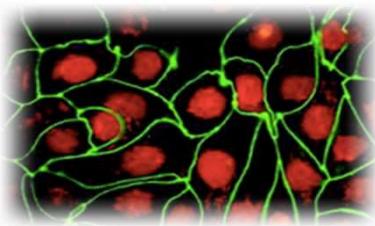


- Intact tissue
- reduction in the number of animals
- increased repetitions

## ➤ Models to investigate the intestinal response on pigs



*In vitro*  
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*Ex vivo*  
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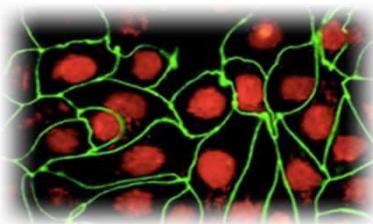
*In vivo*  
in pigs



- representative of **cell complexity**
- Long and expensive
- Limited repetition number

## ➤ Models to investigate the intestinal response on pigs

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*Ex vivo*  
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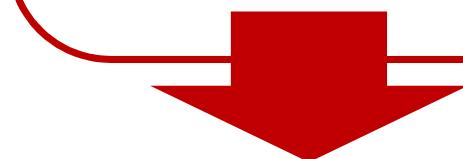


- Intact tissue
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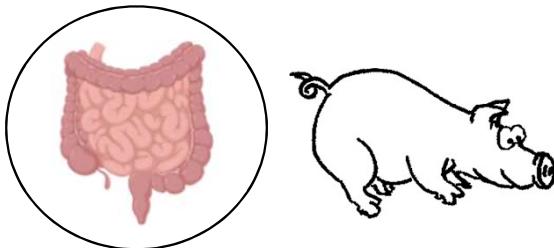
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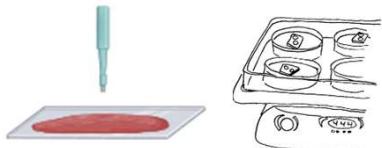
- representative of **cell complexity**
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## ➤ Use jejunal explant to test solutions for improving pig health



Jejunal explant culture



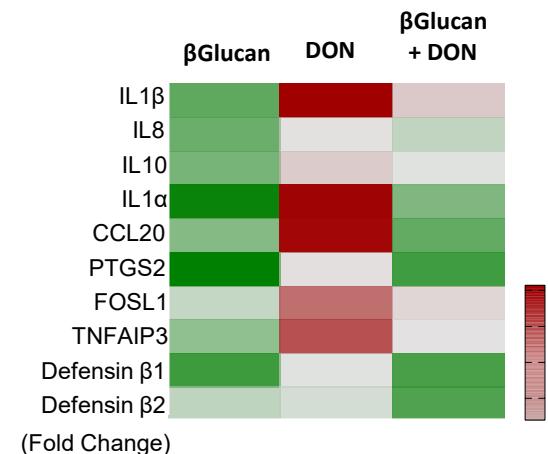
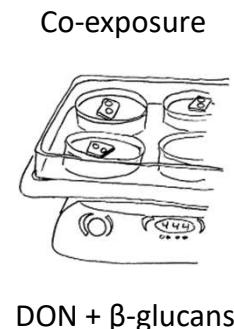
Probiotics/Postbiotics

+

Mycotoxins

(ex: deoxynivalenol, DON)

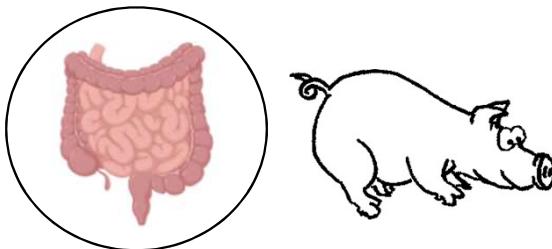
### Reduce the action of the mycotoxin



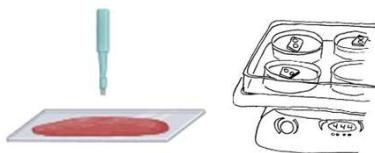
Modulation of pro- and anti-inflammatory gene expression

Marquis, ..., Payros et al., Journées pour la Recherche Porcine, 2023

## ➤ Use jejunal explant to test solutions for improving pig health



Jejunal explant culture



Probiotics/Postbiotics

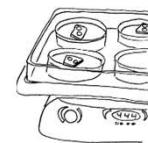
+

Mycotoxins

(ex: deoxynivalenol, DON)

### Reduce sensitivity to their toxic effects

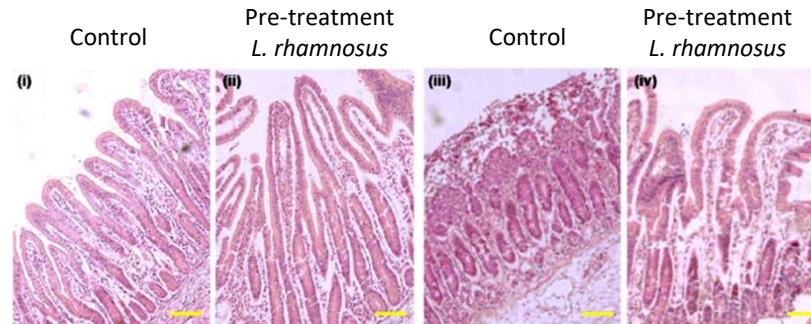
Pre-treatment



*Lactobacillus rhamnosus*  
DON exposure

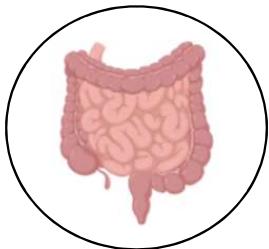
- DON

+ DON

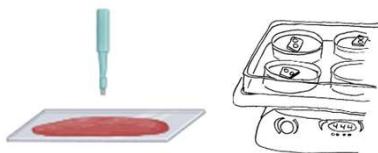


Histomorphological damage

## ➤ Use jejunal explant to test solutions for improving pig health



Jejunal explant culture

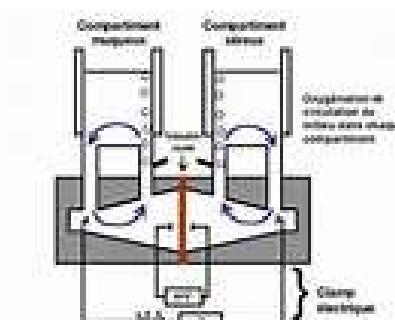
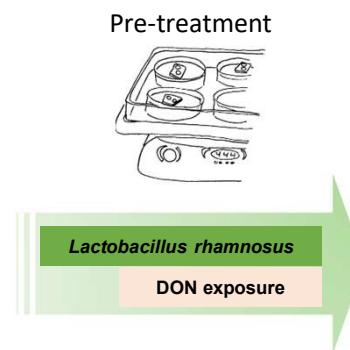


Probiotics/Postbiotics

+

Mycotoxins

(ex: deoxynivalenol, DON)

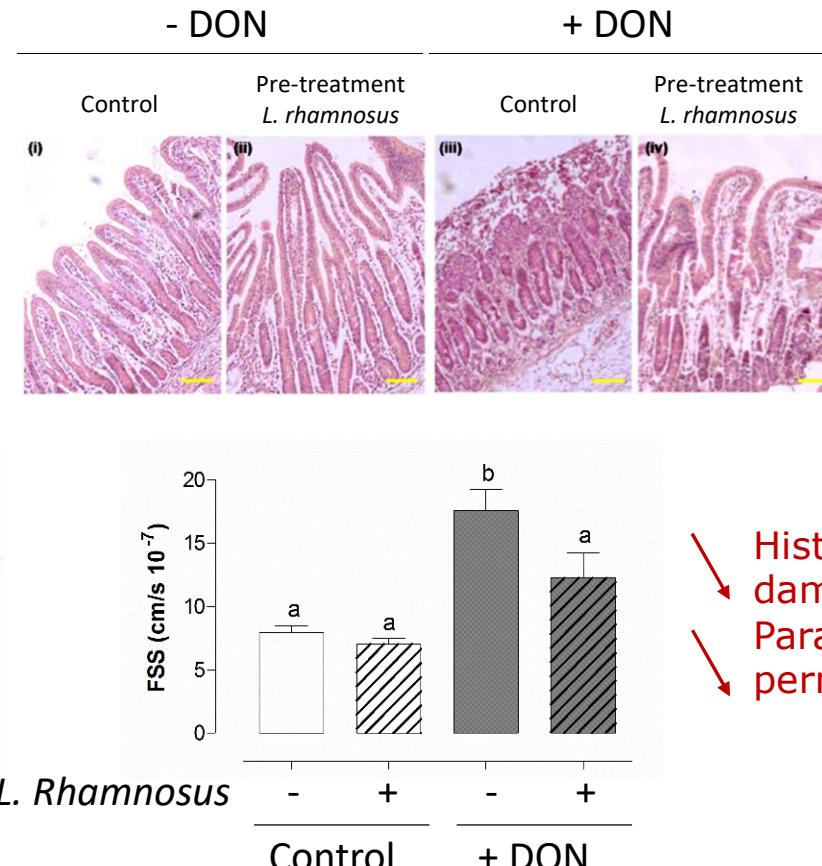


*L. Rhamnosus*

Delphine Payros

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### Reduce sensitivity to their toxic effects

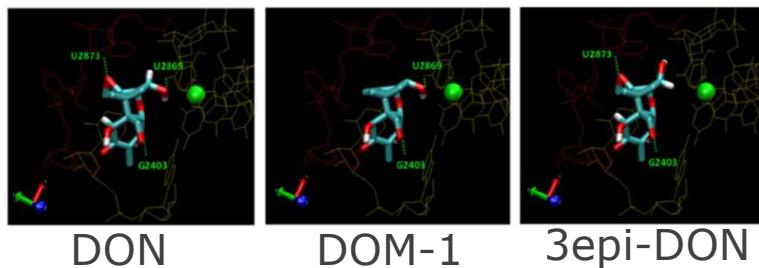


Payros\*, Garcia\*, et al. Arch. toxicol., 2018 p. 12

- Deoxynivalenol is metabolized by bacteria in the microbiota to less toxic metabolites



Bacterial biotransformation of DON to  
DON metabolites with reduced  
toxicity.



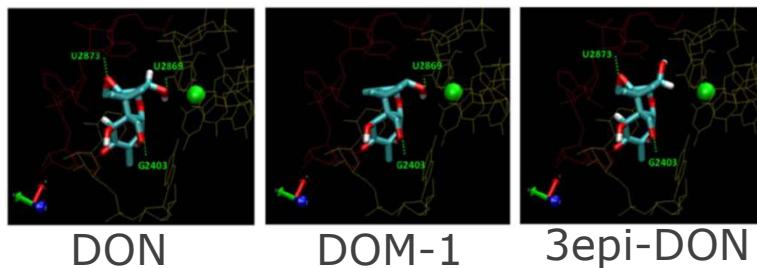
Absence of the epoxy group decreases the affinity of DOM-1 and 3epi-DON and prevents the induction of ribotoxic stress

Pierron et al., *Scientific reports*, 2016

➤ Deoxynivalenol is metabolized by bacteria in the microbiota to less toxic metabolites

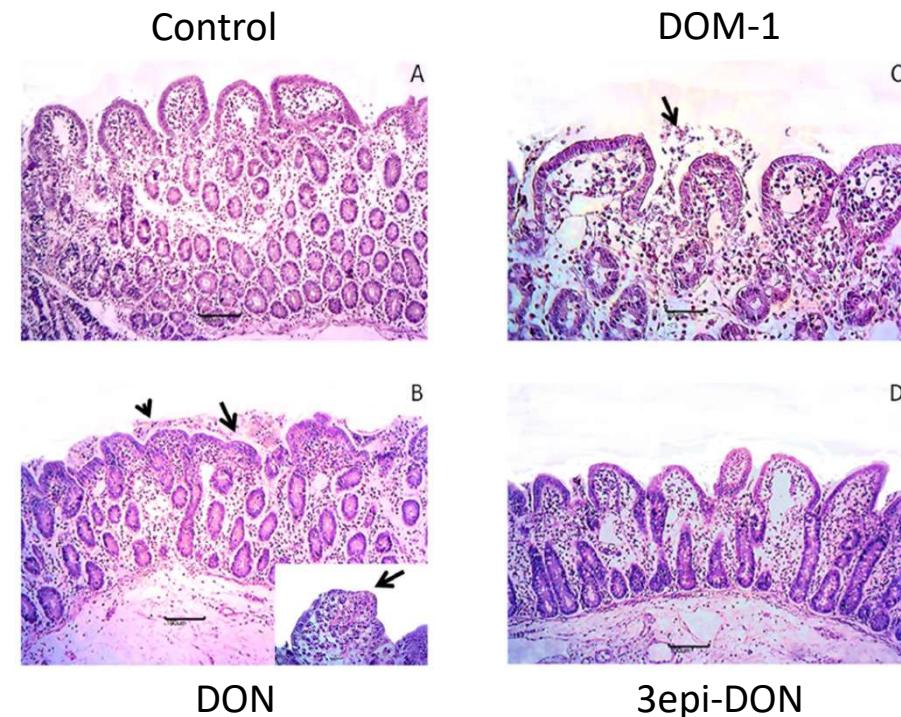


Bacterial biotransformation of DON to DON metabolites with reduced toxicity.



Absence of the epoxy group decreases the affinity of DOM-1 and 3epi-DON and prevents the induction of ribotoxic stress

Pig jejunal explants exposed 4 h to CTRL, DON & DOM-1 (3 epi DON)



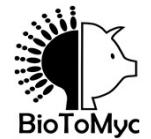
« Tout est bon dans le cochon. »

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Pierron et al., *Scientific reports*, 2016

p. 14

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## Pig jejunal explants exposed 4 h to CTRL, DON & DOM-1 (3 epi DON)

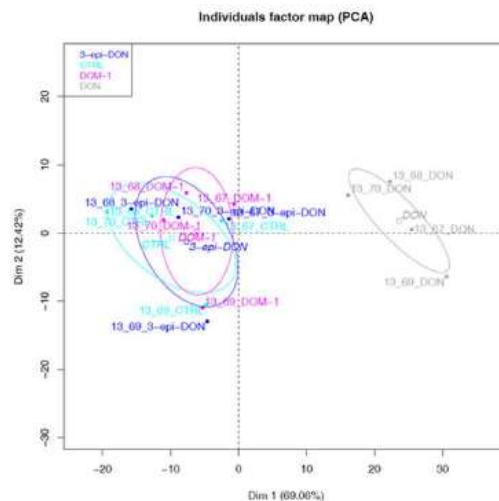
## *Microarray (Agilent, 60 000 probes)*



## **34 775 probes expressed in the intestine**



## Principal component analysis



## ➤ Deoxynivalenol is metabolized by bacteria in the microbiota to less toxic metabolites



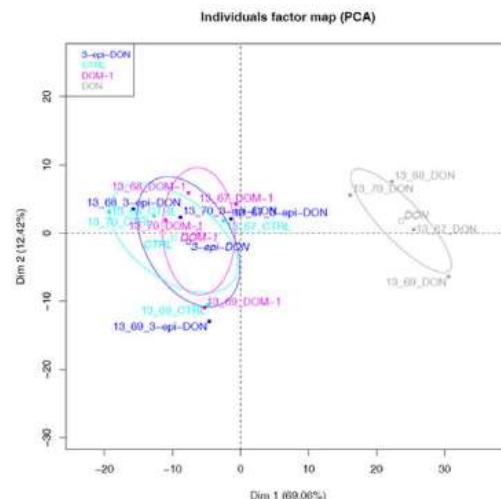
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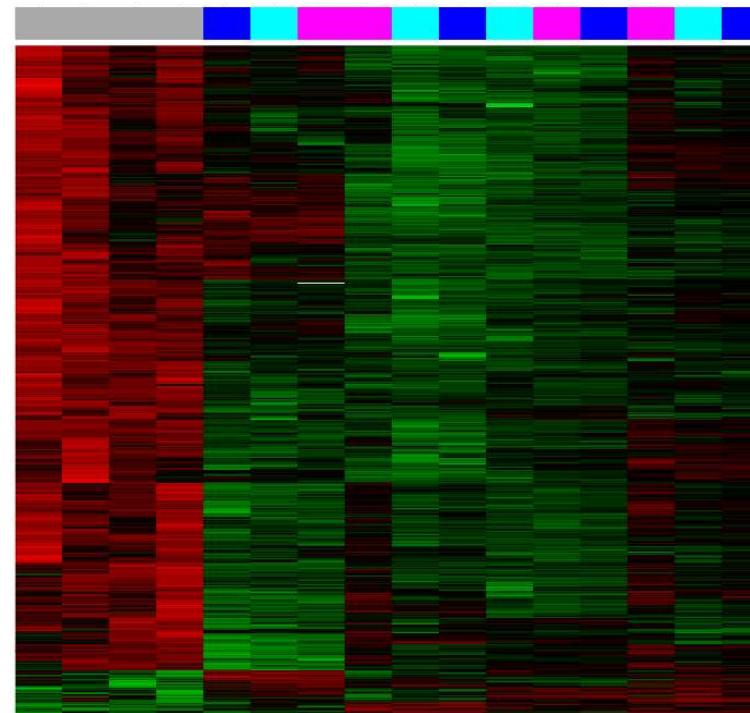


34 775 probes expressed in the intestine

### Principal component analysis



Heat map



DON  
DOM-1  
3epi DON  
CTRL

No probe were differentially expressed between DOM-1,  
3epi-DON and control.



« Tout est bon dans le cochon. »

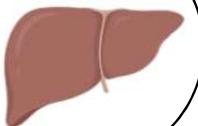
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Pierron et al., Scientific reports, 2016 p. 16

## ► Models to investigate the hepatic response in pigs: the liver slices

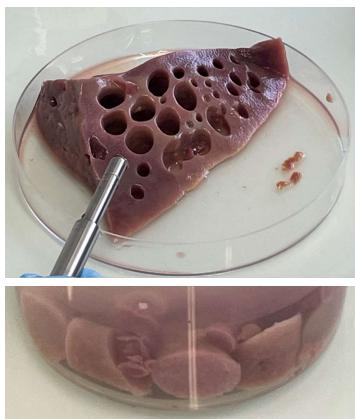


Liver

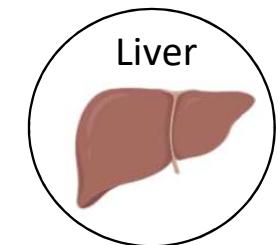


Tissue slicer  
Slice 250 $\mu$ M

liver lobe removal

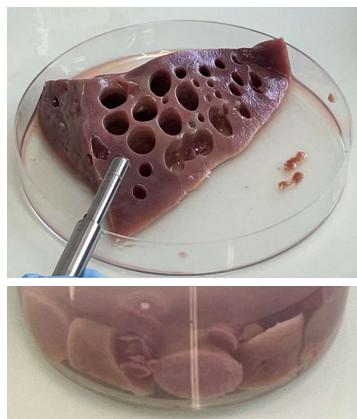


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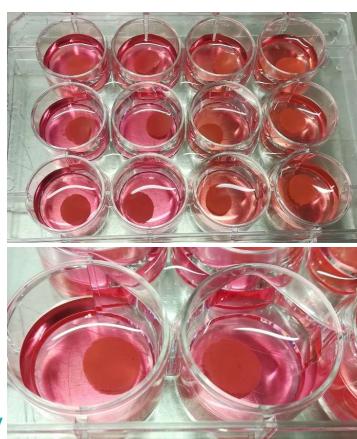


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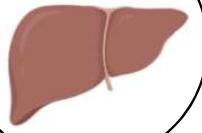
Culture from 4h to 72h



## ► Models to investigate the hepatic response in pigs: the liver slices

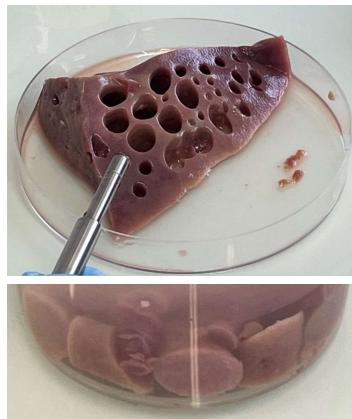


Liver

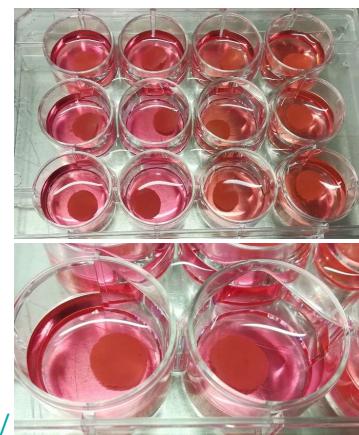


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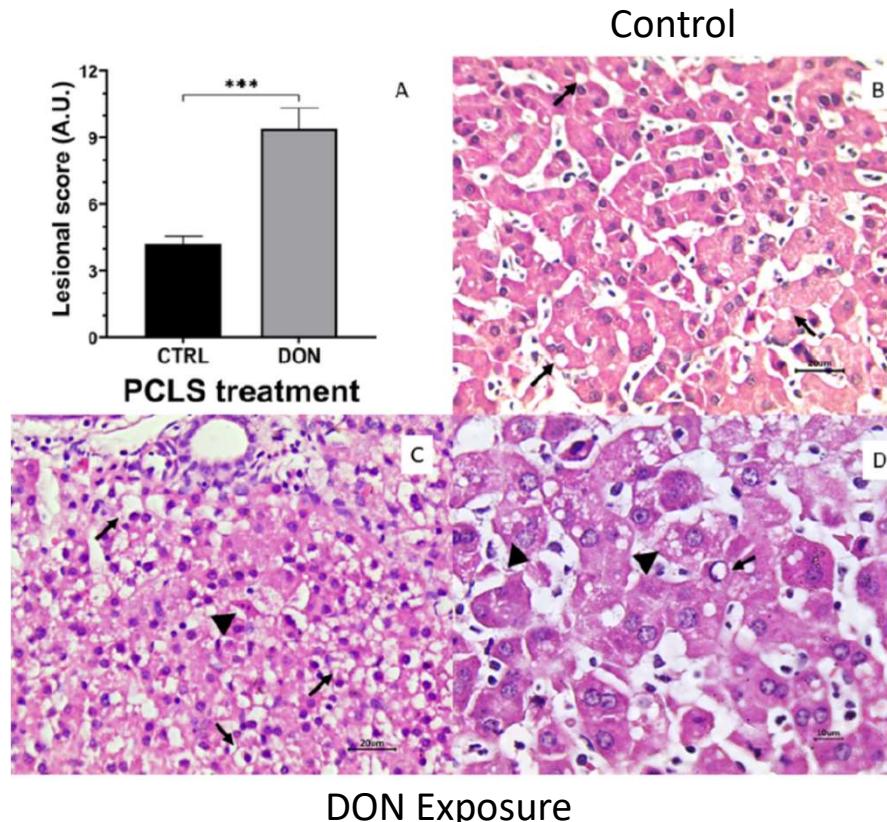
## ► Models to investigate the hepatic response in pigs: the liver slices



## ► Models to investigate the hepatic response in pigs: the liver slices



Exposure 4h to DON



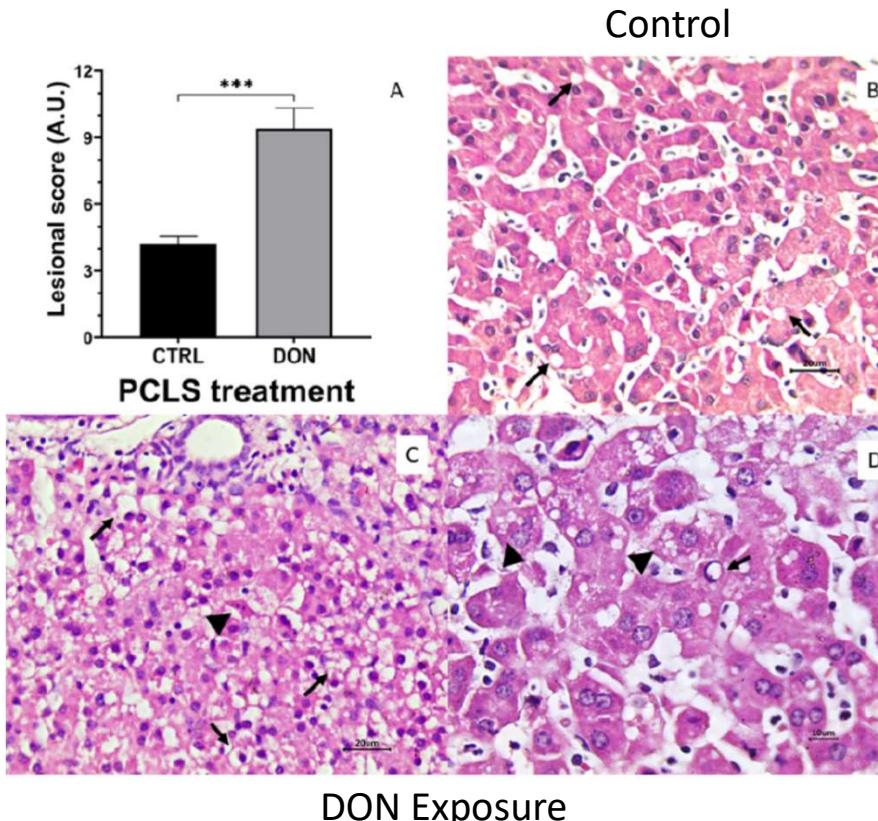
DON exacerbates hepatic cellular damage.

- Cytoplasmic vacuolation
- ▲ Cytoplasmic and nuclear vacuolation

## ► Models to investigate the hepatic response in pigs: the liver slices

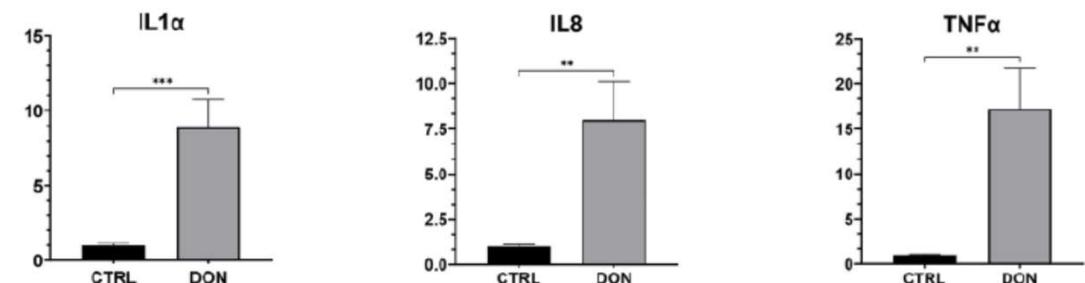


Exposure 4h to DON



DON exacerbates hepatic cellular damage.

- Cytoplasmic vacuolation
- ▲ Cytoplasmic and nuclear vacuolation



DON exacerbates pro-inflammatory gene expression in liver slices.

## ➤ Advantages and limits

### Advantages

- Tissular structure
- Multiple readouts (gene expression, histological analysis, functional analysis, protein and cytokine abundance, ...)
- Multiple organs
- No restricted materials → For certain organs: no live animals used
- Xenobiotic, toxic and bacterial interaction

## > Advantages and limits

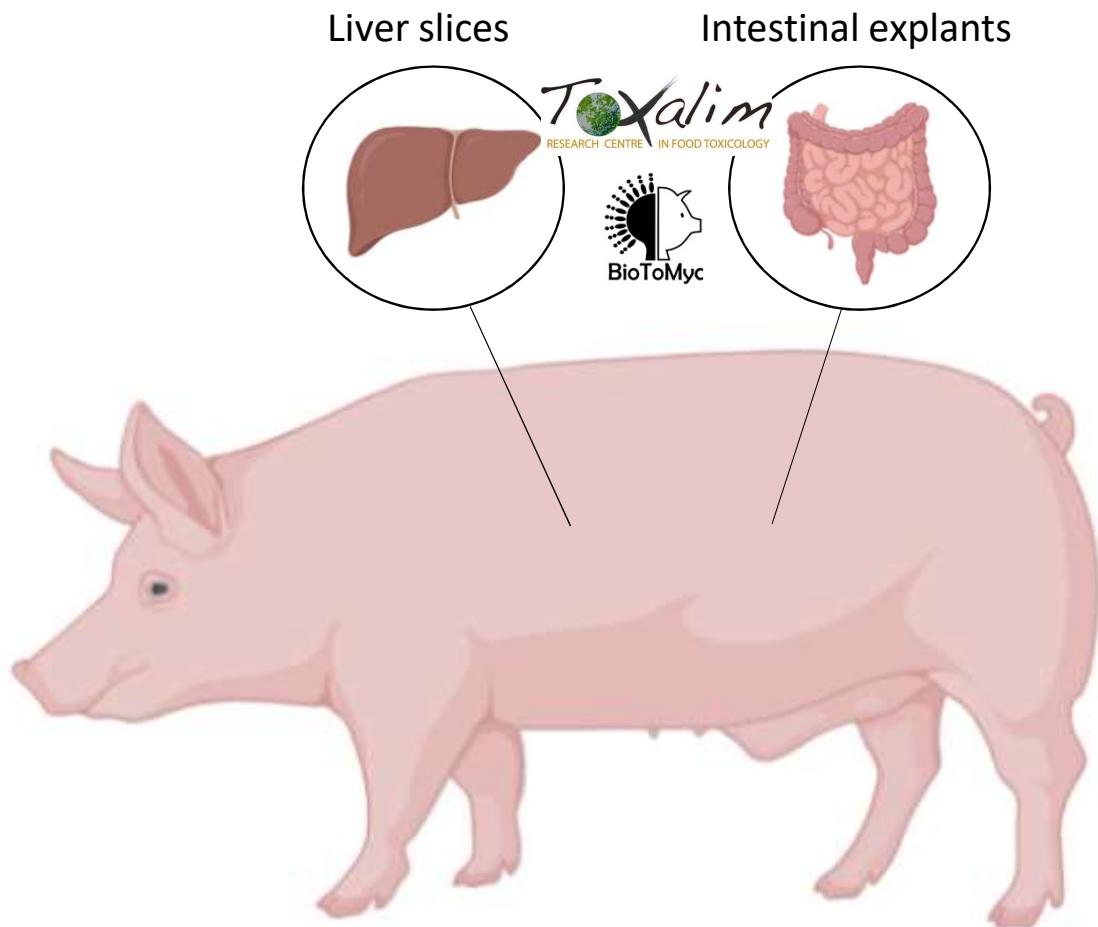
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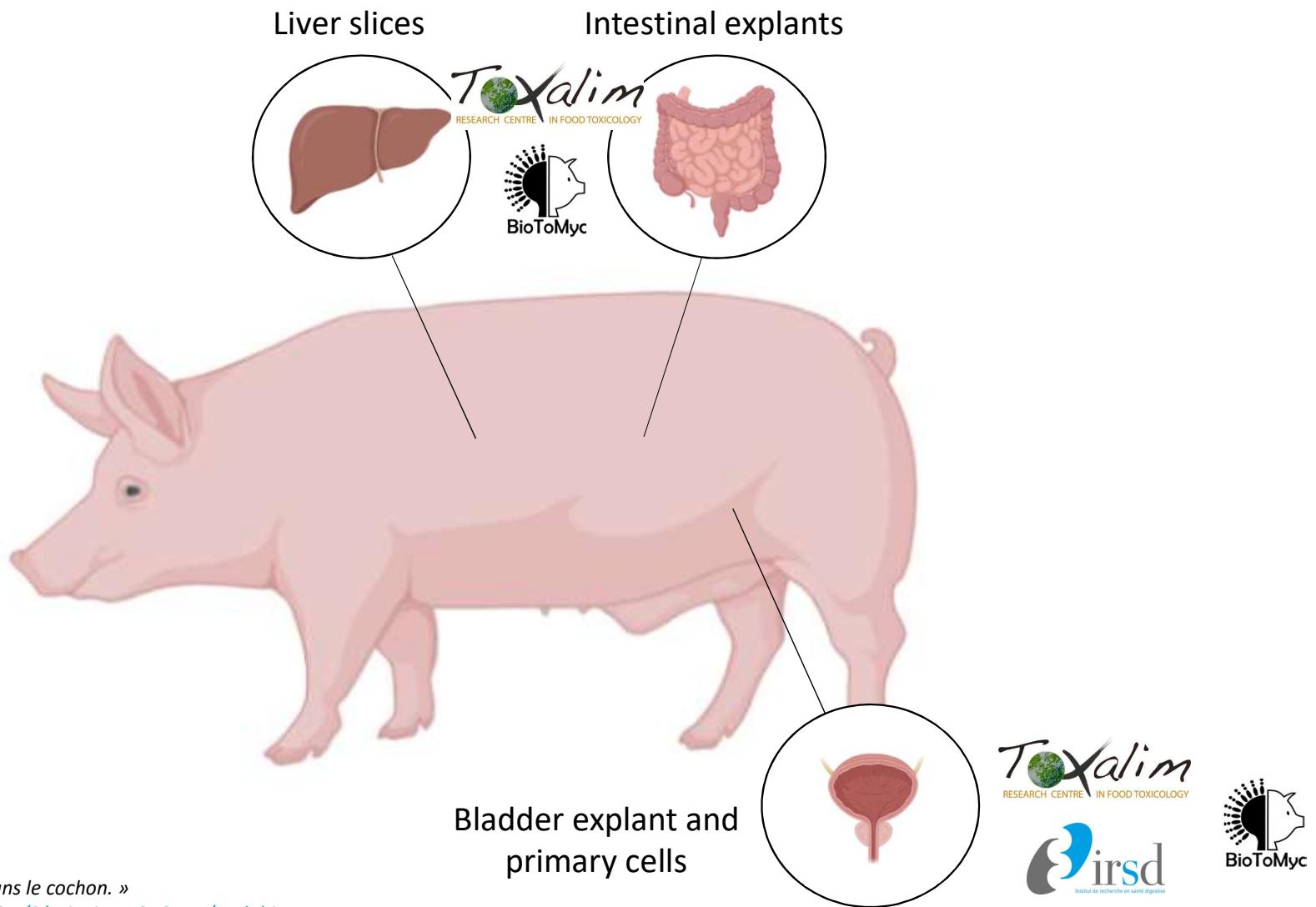
### Limits

- Time of conservation (intestine)
- Absence of vascular system and systemic immune system
- No zootechnical performances
- Few studies in the presence of microbiota
- Always requires of animals

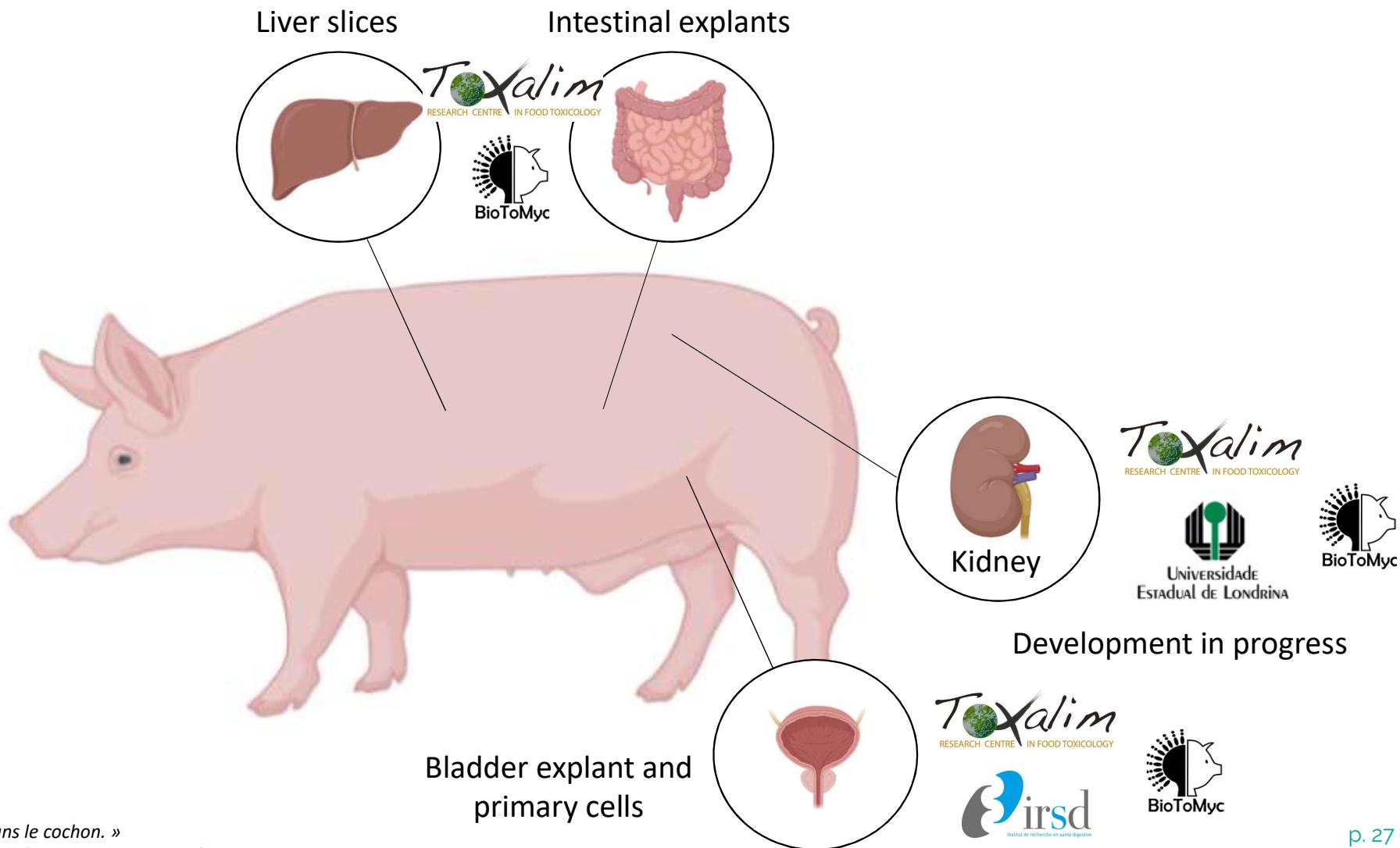
- BioToMyc Team explores the toxicity of mycotoxins through several models in pigs



► BioToMyc Team develops new alternatives models to evaluate the toxicity of mycotoxins



## ► BioToMyc Team develops new alternatives models to evaluate the toxicity of mycotoxins

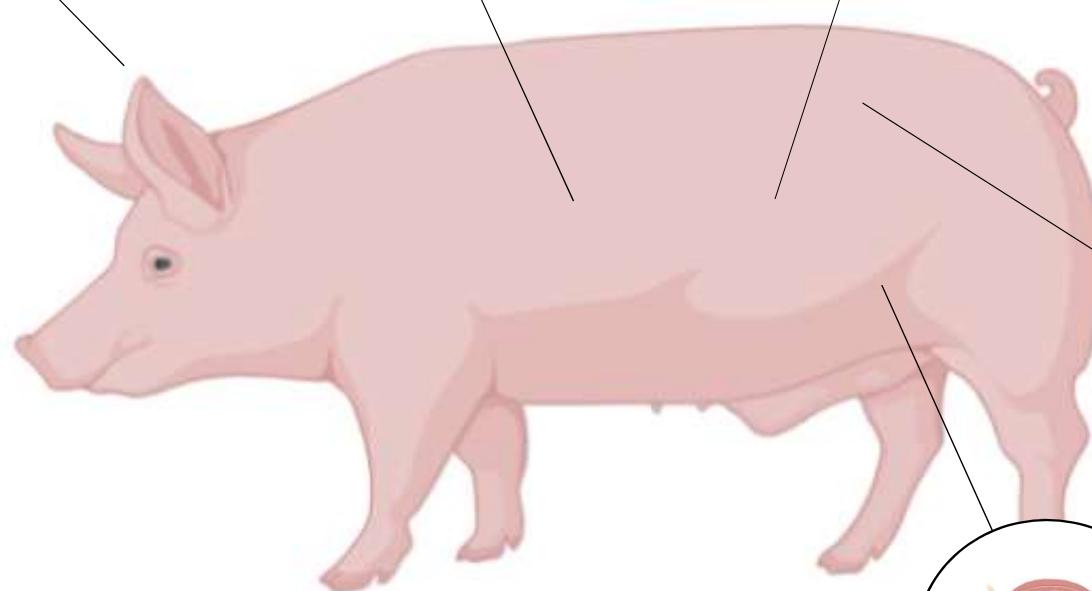


## ➤ Collaborations of the BioToMyc Team: alternative models to animal experimentation in pig



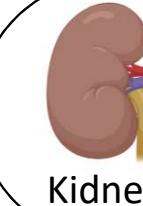
Equipe MeX

Skin explants to ears  
for toxicological analysis



Liver slices

Intestinal explants



Bladder explant and  
primary cells



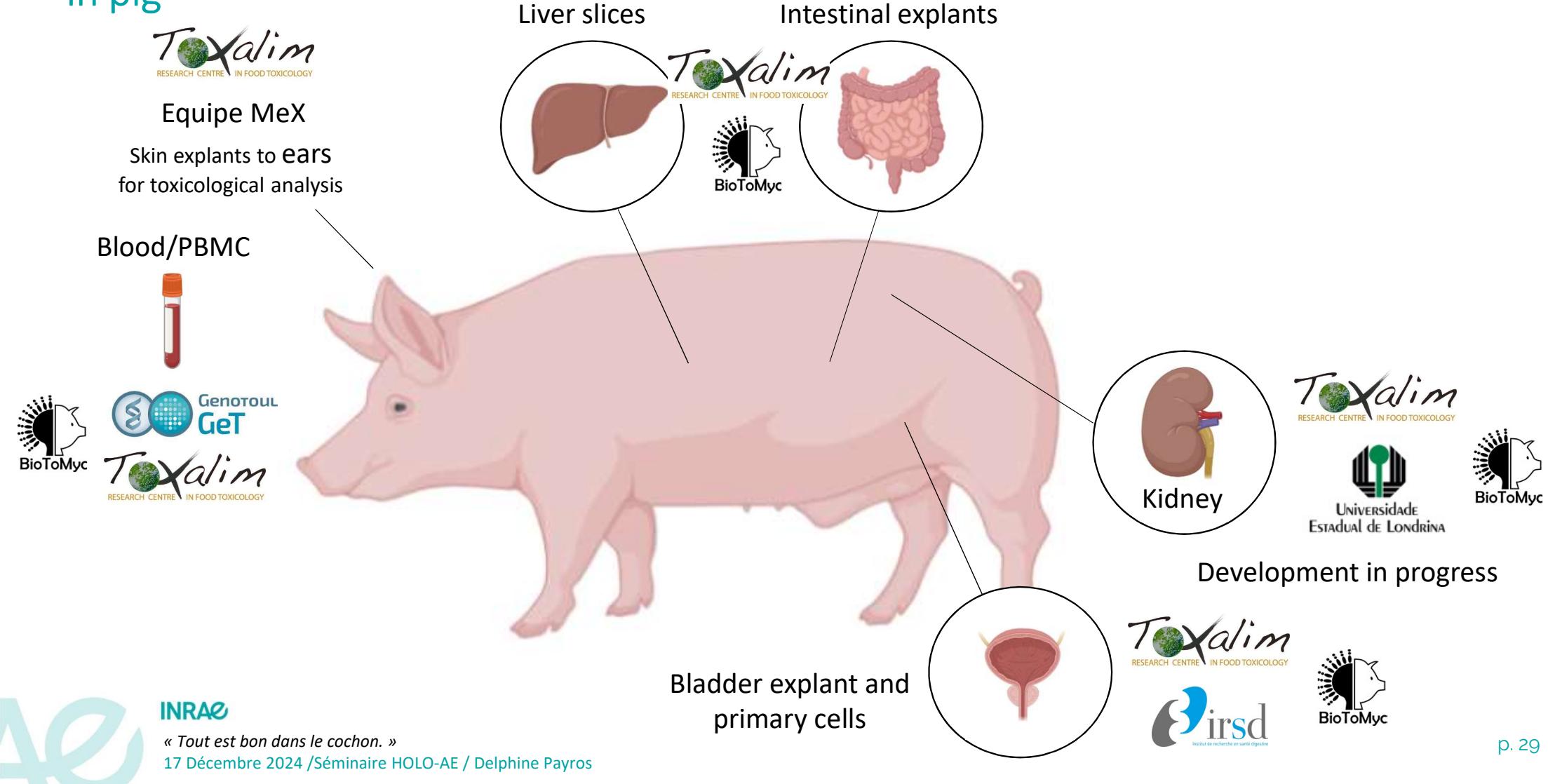
Development in progress



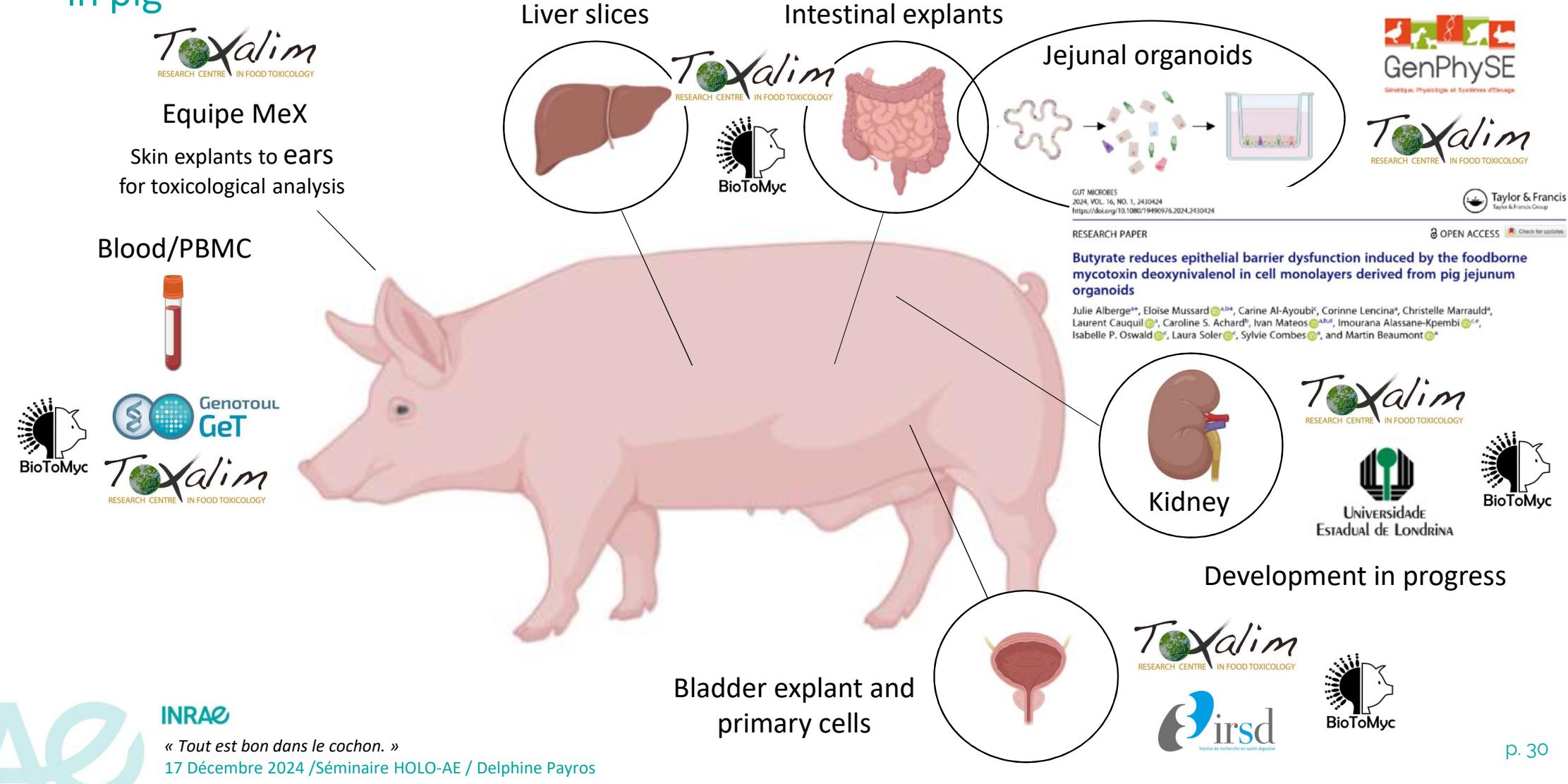
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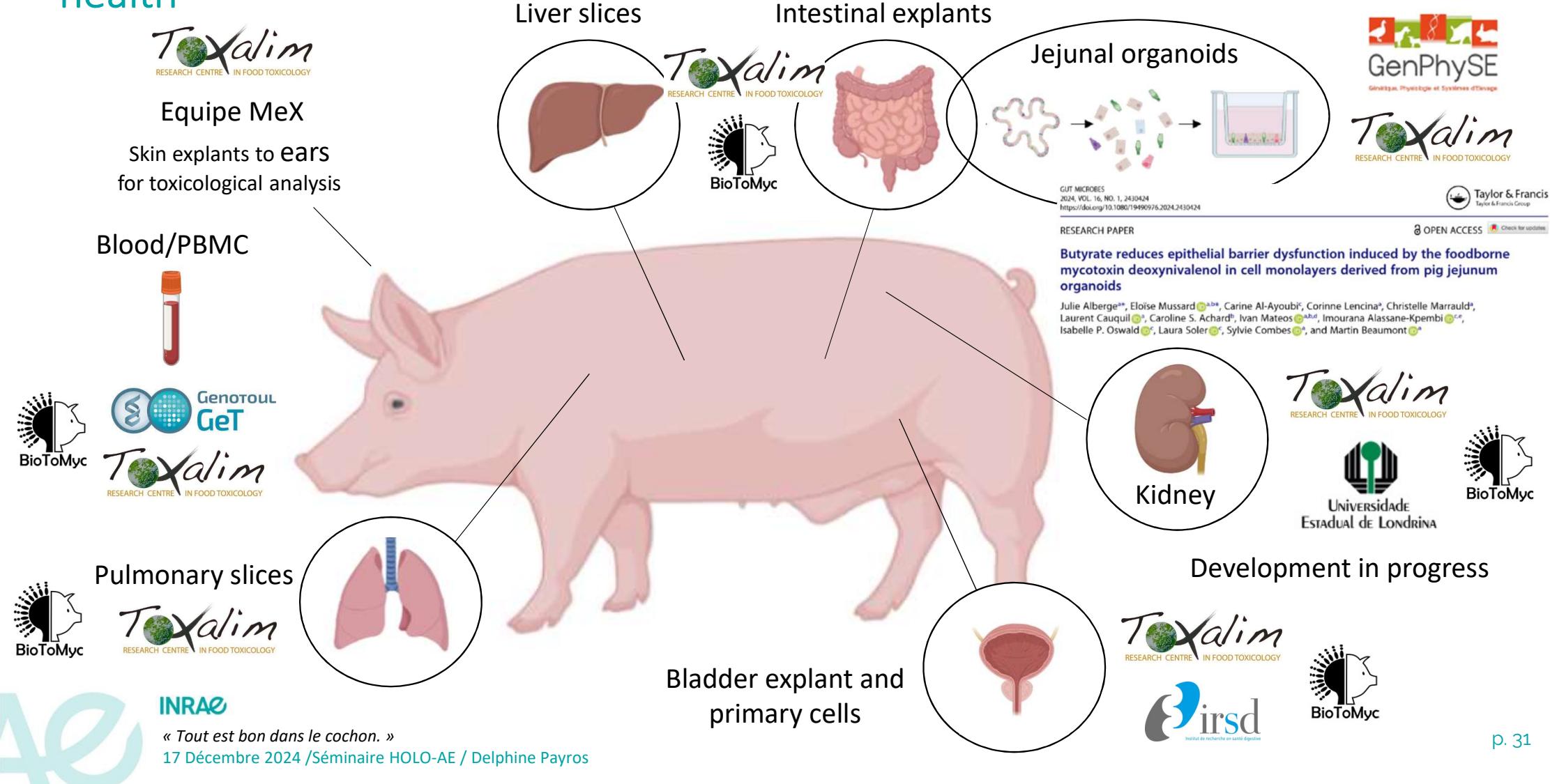
## ➤ Collaborations of the BioToMyc Team: alternative models to animal experimentation in pig



## ➤ Collaborations of the BioToMyc Team: alternative models to animal experimentation in pig



# ► Future research and development of the BioToMyc Team for animal and human health



## ▶ Acknowledgements

### Intestinal explants

P. Pinton  
I. Alassane Kpembi  
A. Pierron  
C. Al Ayoubi  
D. Payros  
G. Garcia  
I. Oswald

### Liver slices

P. Pinton  
L. Soler  
M. Garofalo  
N. Le Moël  
O. Labat  
I. Oswald

### Bladder explant and kidney slices

A. Durant PhD  
D. Payros  
P. Pinton  
M. Penary  
I. Oswald  
J.P. Nougayrède

### Zootechnie

M. Albin  
E. Rousseau-Bacquié

### Histomorphology

A.P. Bracarense

### Ears

Sandrine Bruel  
Elodie Person

### Transcriptomic analysis

Y. Lippi  
G. Payros  
C. Naylies  
S. Puel

### Intestinal Organoids

M. Beaumont  
J. Alberge



**EZOP**



**GAEC de CALVIGNAC**



**INRAe**

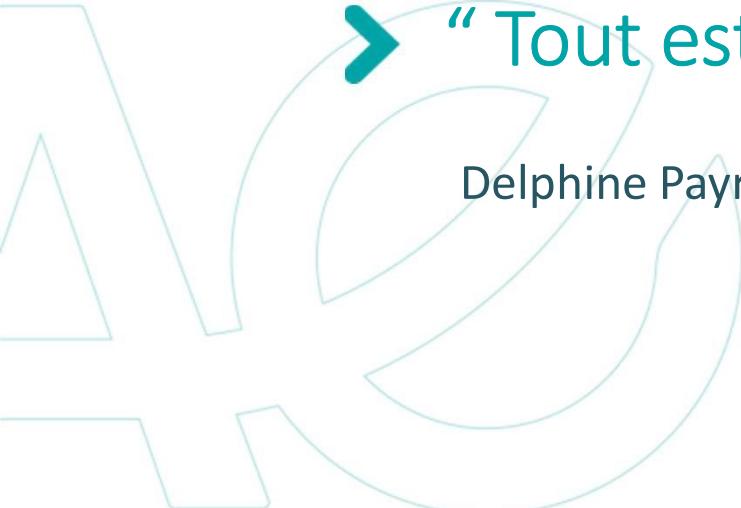
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Universidad  
Nacional  
de Córdoba





# “Tout est bon dans le cochon.”

Delphine Payros, Séminaire du réseau HOLO-AE, Paris, 17 décembre 2024



**INRAE**