

5 mares

1st oestrous
cycle

Insemination to confirm uterine health

Randomised assignment to groups

Group 1

Group 2

2nd oestrous
cycle

Inoculation with *E. coli* during **oestrus**
(>35 mm follicle, oedema).
Endometrial biopsies before and
3 h post-inoculation

Inoculation with *E. coli* during
dioestrus
(5 d post-ovulation, corpus luteum).
Endometrial biopsies before and
3 h post-inoculation

3rd oestrous
cycle

Inoculation with *E. coli* during
dioestrus
(5 d post-ovulation, corpus luteum).
Endometrial biopsies before and
3 h post-inoculation

Inoculation with *E. coli* during **oestrus**
(>35 mm follicle, oedema).
Endometrial biopsies before and
3 h post-inoculation