

Dear Editor (JAHP),

Please find a manuscript entitled “**Velogenic viscerotropic Newcastle disease virus produces variable pathogenicity in two chicken breeds**” that we would like to submit to the peer review of **Journal of Animal Health and Production (JAHP)**.

Conventional pathogenicity tests like mean death time (MDT) of chicken embryos, intracerebral pathogenicity index (ICPI) in day old chicks and intravenous pathogenicity (IVPI) in 6-week old chickens are used for measuring virulence of Newcastle disease (ND) viruses. Here, we have shown that Velogenic Viscerotropic ND virus (VVNDV) inoculation of embryonated eggs of Fayoumi and White Leghorn breeds produces variable Hemagglutination and Egg infectious Dose<sub>50</sub> titers. Moreover, pathogenicity indices based on MDT, ICPI and IVPI for same VVNDV isolate vary between two chicken breeds. Present study has implications for not only breeding decisions for increasing genetic resistance to infectious disease but will help in making husbandry decisions in view of more or less prevalence of ND in an area.

It is hoped that manuscript could be accepted for publication by JAHP. We look forward to receive your evaluation and reviewers' comments.

Best regards,

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(on the behalf of all authors)