

# Dietary phytonutrients enhance disease resistance of pigs

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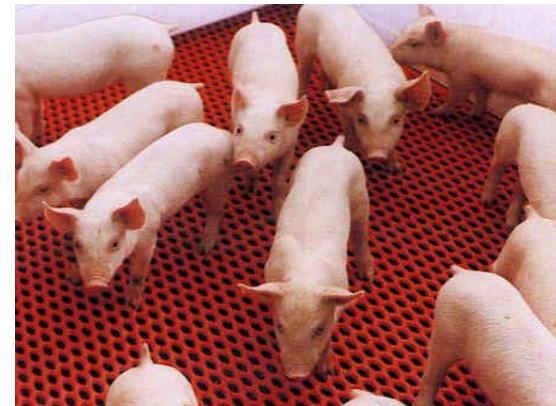
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# Outline

- **Previous knowledge**
- **Hypothesis**
- **Test of hypothesis**
- **What does it mean?**

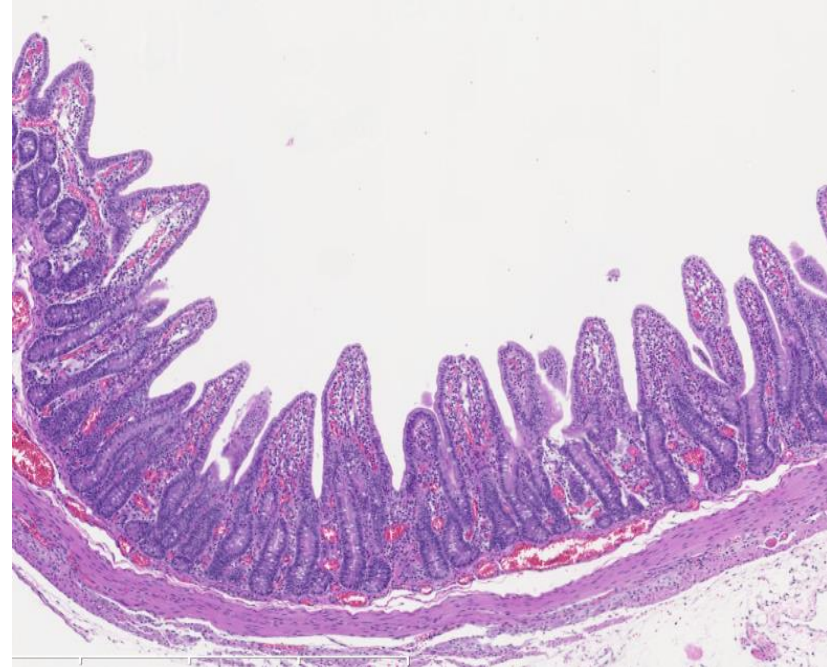
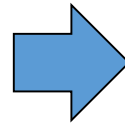
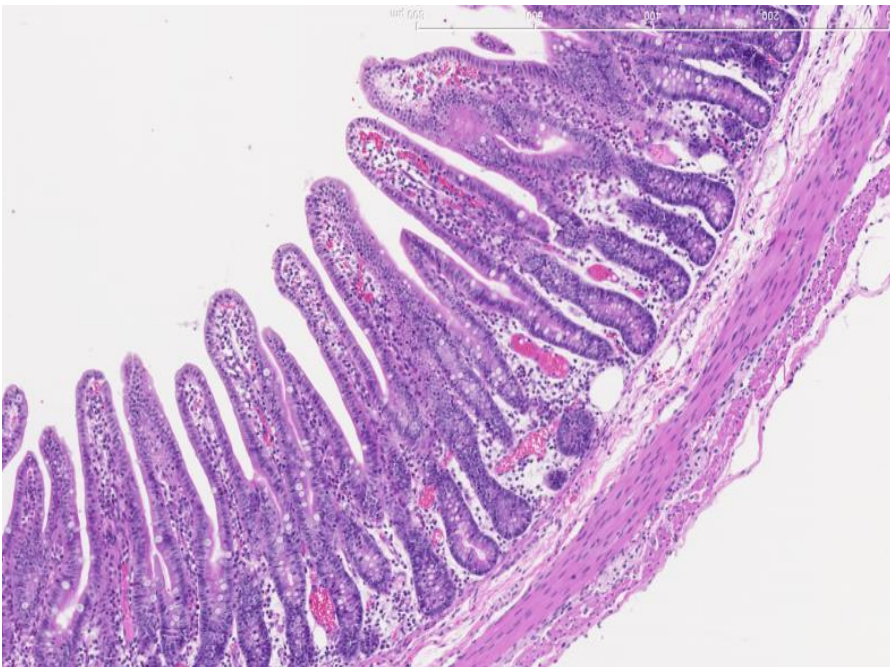
# Weaning stress

- **Maternal separation**
- **Environmental change**
- **Increased exposure to pathogens**
- **Social hierarchy stress**
- **Move to solid feed**
- **Transportation stress**



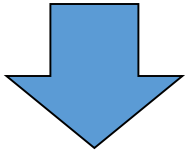
# Gut morphology change of weanling pigs

- Reduced feed intake
- Negative effects on intestinal morphology



# Declined intestinal functions

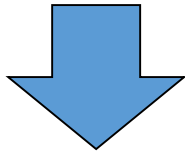
- **Reduced brush-border enzyme activity**
- **Reduced absorption ability**



- **Diarrhea**
- **Poor growth performance**

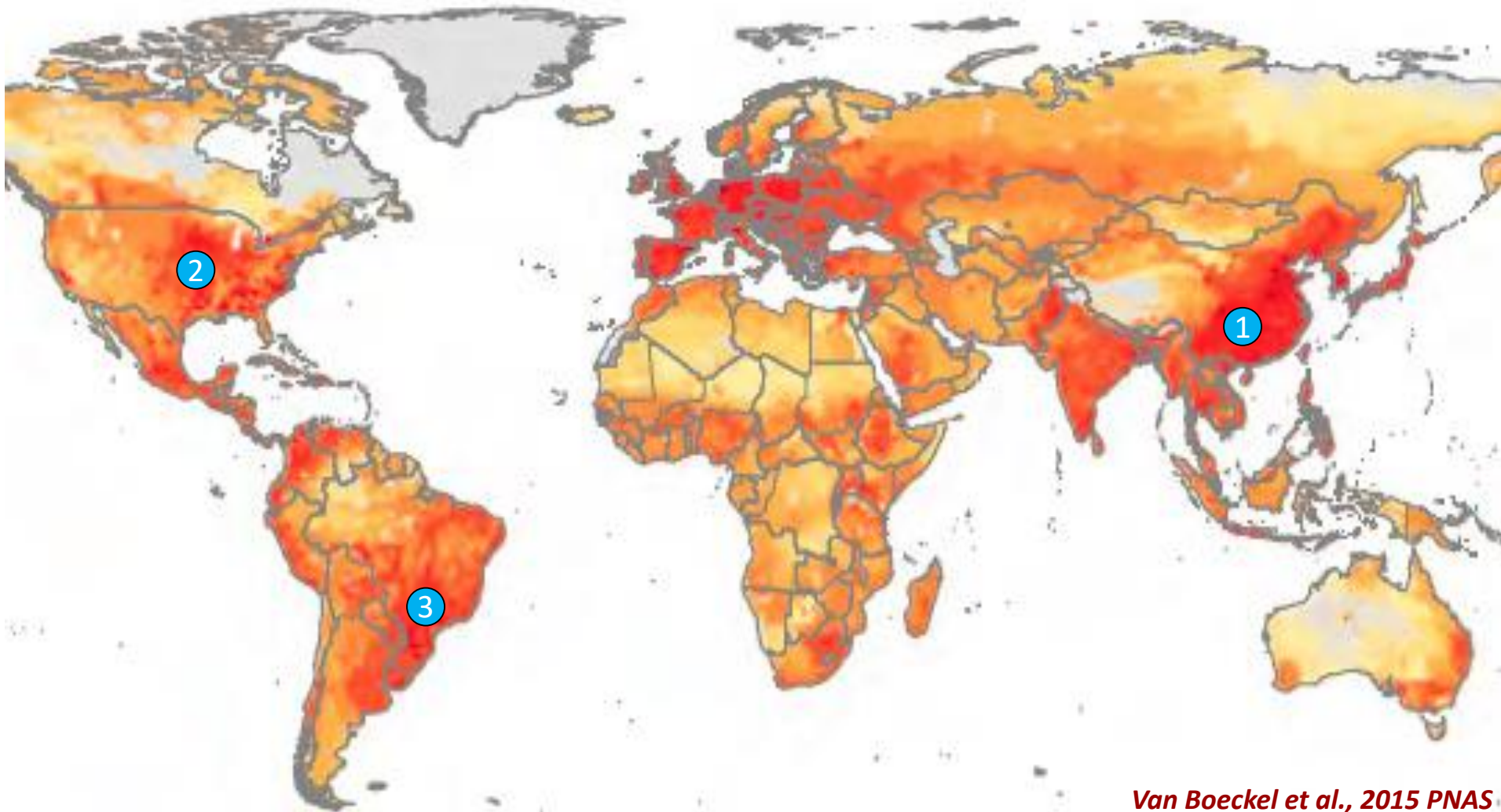
# Immunity of weanling pigs

- **Passive immunity is declining**
- **Active immunity is not fully developed**



- **Highly sensitive to infectious disease**
- **Divert nutrients away from growth to immune response**
- **Poor growth performance**

# Antibiotic use on farms



*Van Boeckel et al., 2015 PNAS*



# Feed additives

- Mannan oligosaccharides
- Immune egg products
- Direct-fed bacteria
- Yeast/yeast products
- Plant extracts





# Plant extracts

- **Extracted from parts of plants or synthesized**
- **Concentrated, hydrophobic, volatile aroma**
- **Mixtures of secondary plant metabolites**
- **Liquid or powder**
- **Phenolic compounds**



# Plant extracts

- **Biological effects:**
  - ✓ **Antimicrobial**
  - ✓ **Anti-inflammatory**
  - ✓ **Antioxidant**
  - ✓ **Others: Antiviral, Antifungal, Antiparasitic, Antitoxigenic**



# Hypothesis

- 1) Certain plant extracts modify immune function of pigs**
- 2) This leads to increased disease resistance**

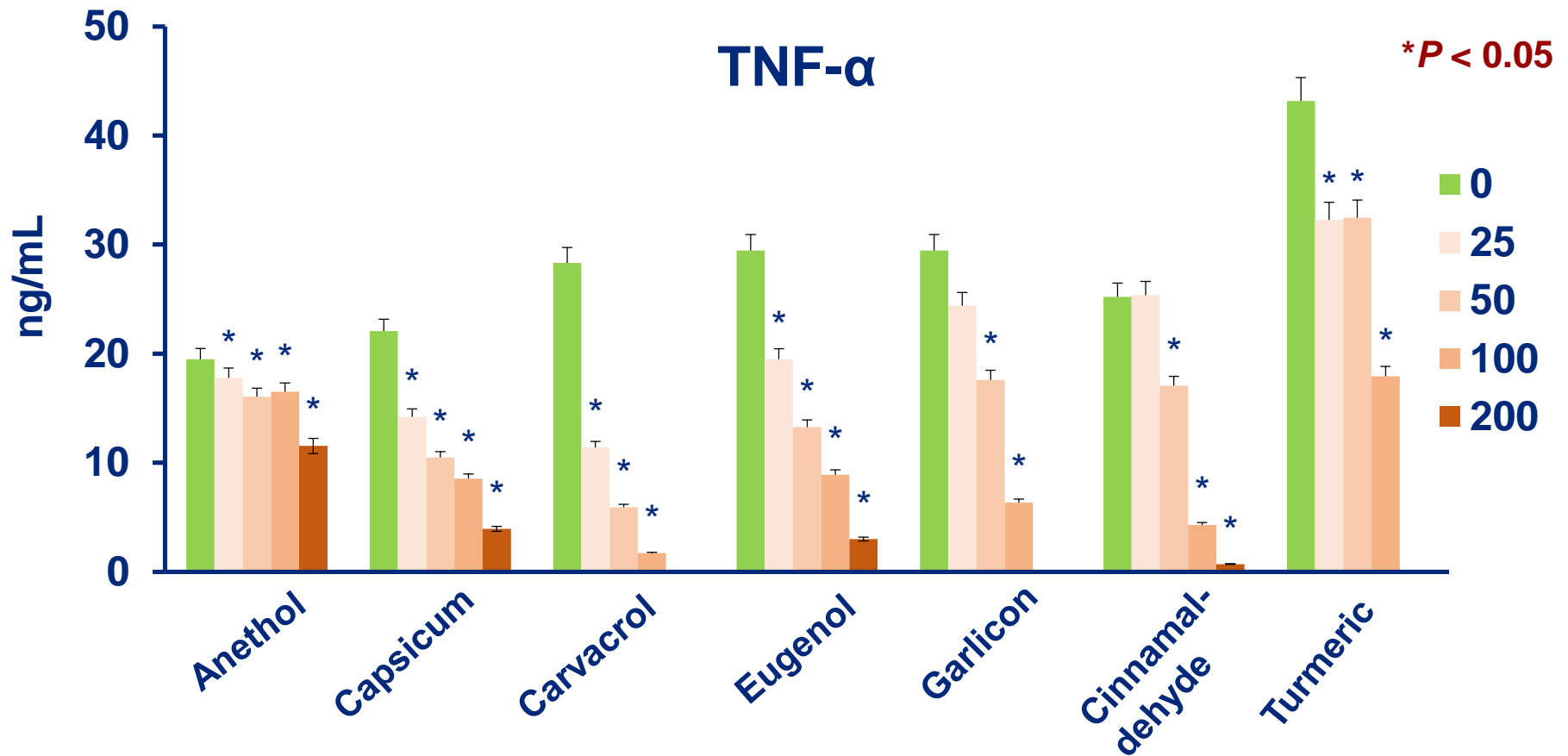
# Test of hypothesis

- **Exp. 1: In vitro cell culture**
- **Exp. 2: *E. coli* challenge study**
- **Exp. 3: PRRS challenge study**

# Experiment 1

## In vitro cell culture assays

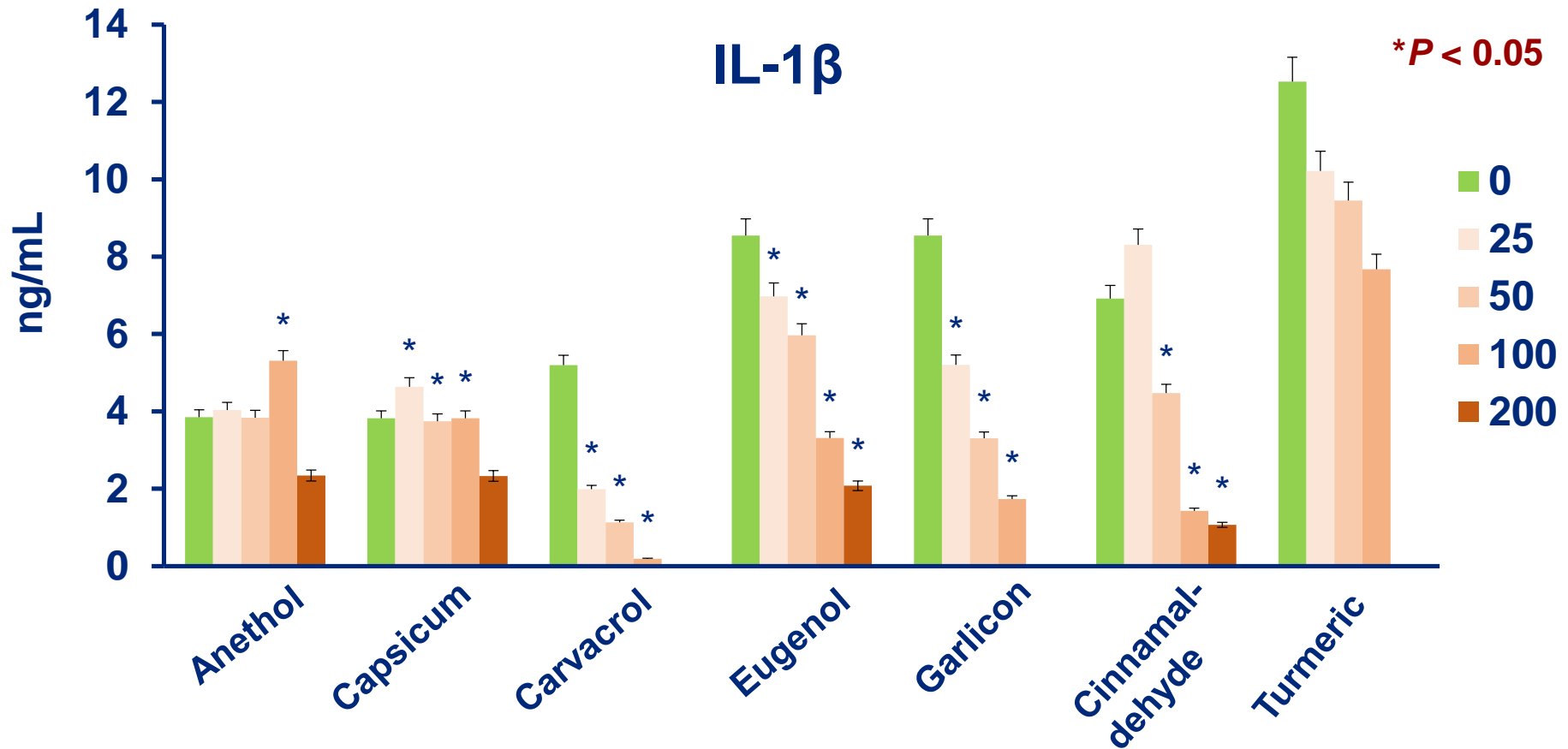
# Anti-inflammatory effects



**LPS-stimulated porcine alveolar macrophages**

*Liu et al., 2012*

# Anti-inflammatory effects



LPS-stimulated porcine alveolar macrophages

*Liu et al., 2012*

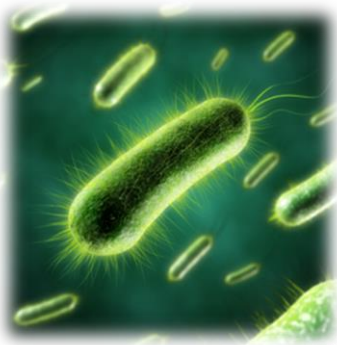


# Conclusions – Exp. 1

- All of plant extracts used in this experiment may have potent anti-inflammatory effects
- Carvacrol, cinnamaldehyde, eugenol, and garlicon might be the more powerful candidates
- Capsicum oleoresin, garlicon, and turmeric oleoresin were selected to do *E. coli* and PRRSV challenge studies

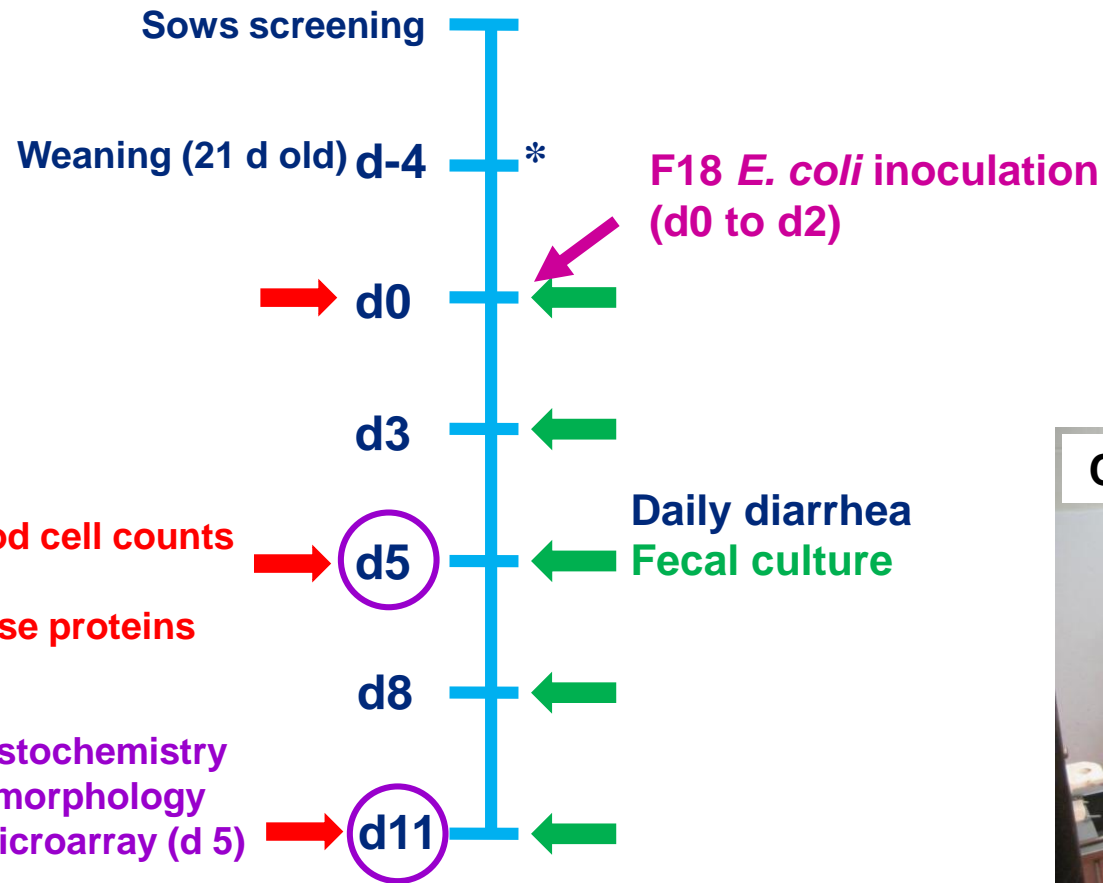
# Experiment 2

## In vivo *E. coli* challenge study



*Liu et al., 2013a*

# Procedures

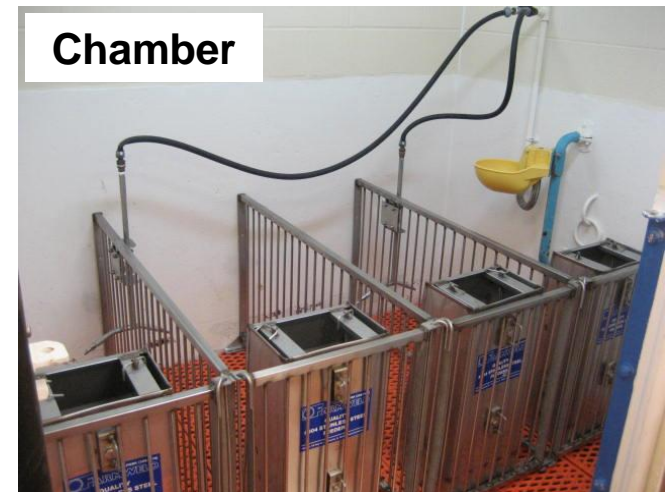


\* 4 diets: control, 10 ppm capsicum oleoresin, 10 ppm garlicon, 10 ppm turmeric oleoresin

Room

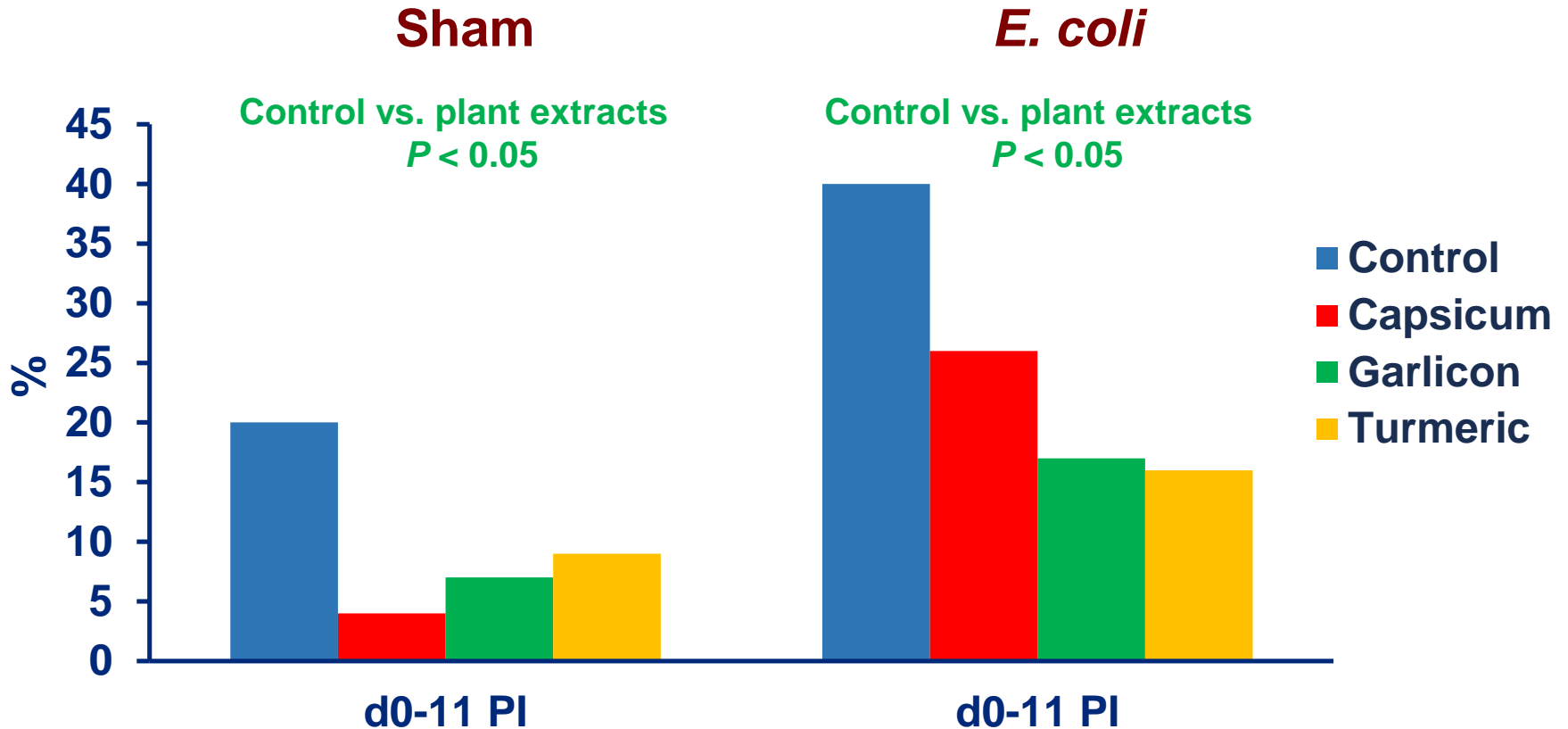


Chamber



*Liu et al., 2013a*

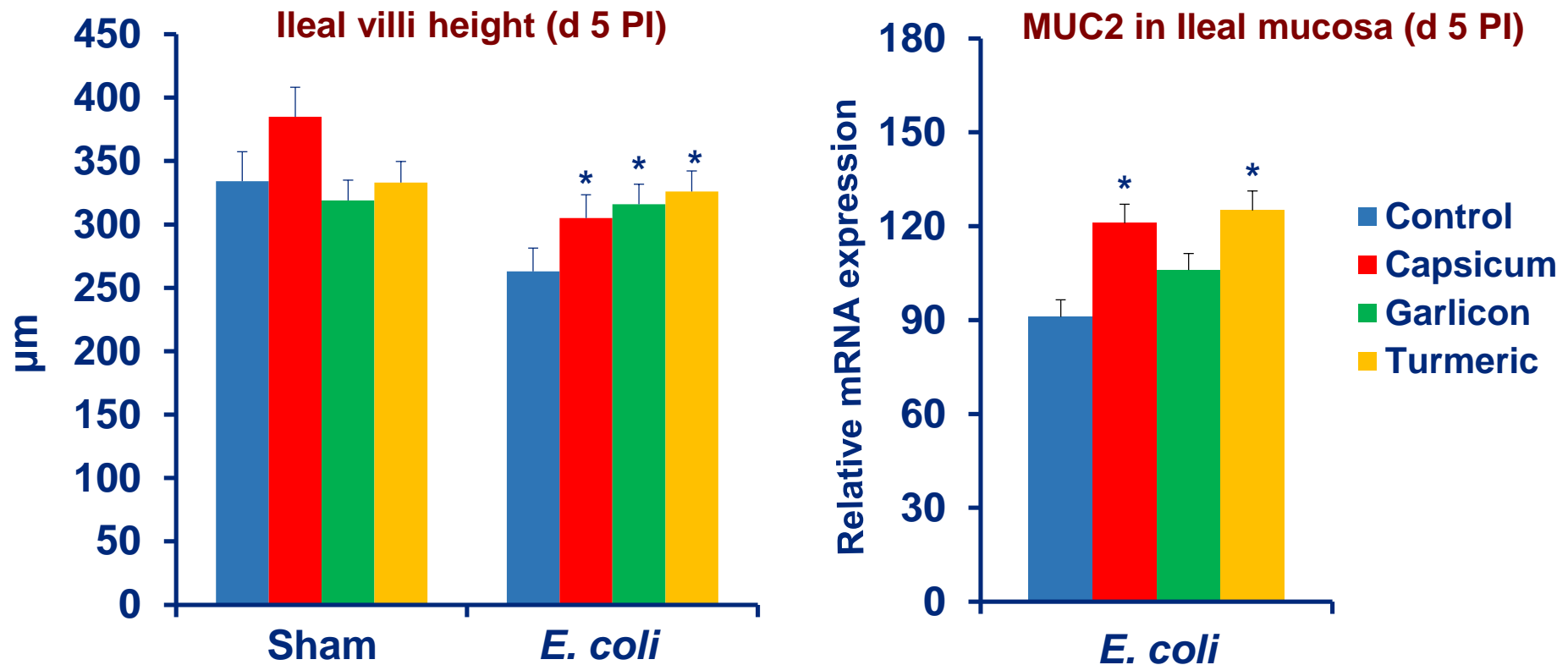
# Frequency of diarrhea



Pig days with diarrhea score  $\geq 3$   
1, normal; 5, watery diarrhea

Liu et al., 2013a

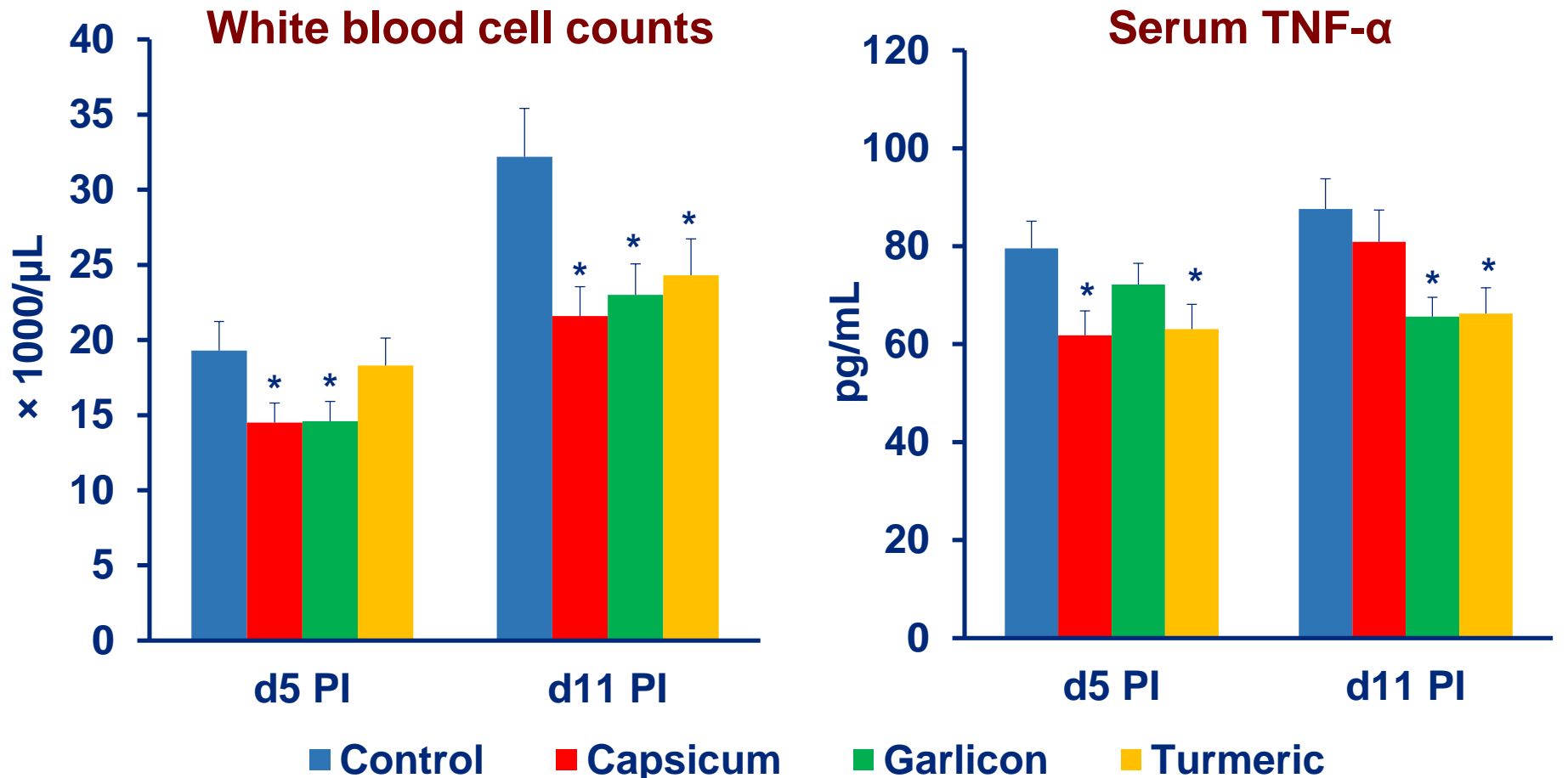
# Possible mechanism for reduced diarrhea



➤ Possibly improved gut barrier function!

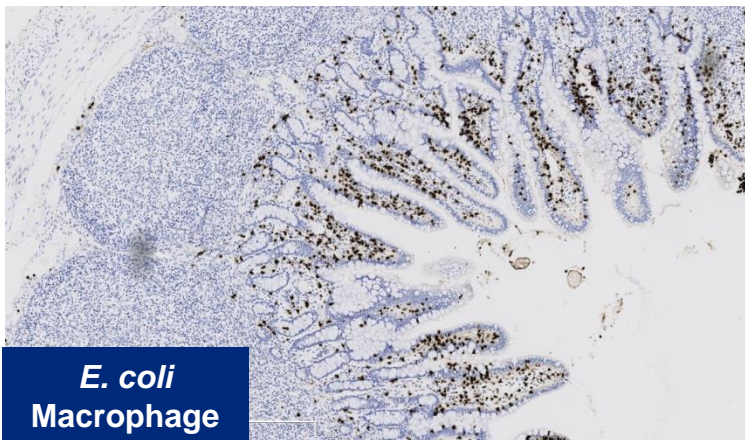
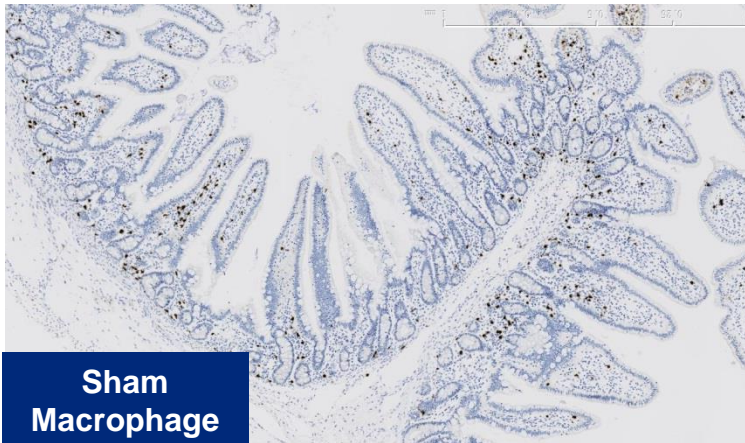
Liu et al., 2013a, 2014

# Plant extracts reduced systemic inflammation caused by *E. coli* infection

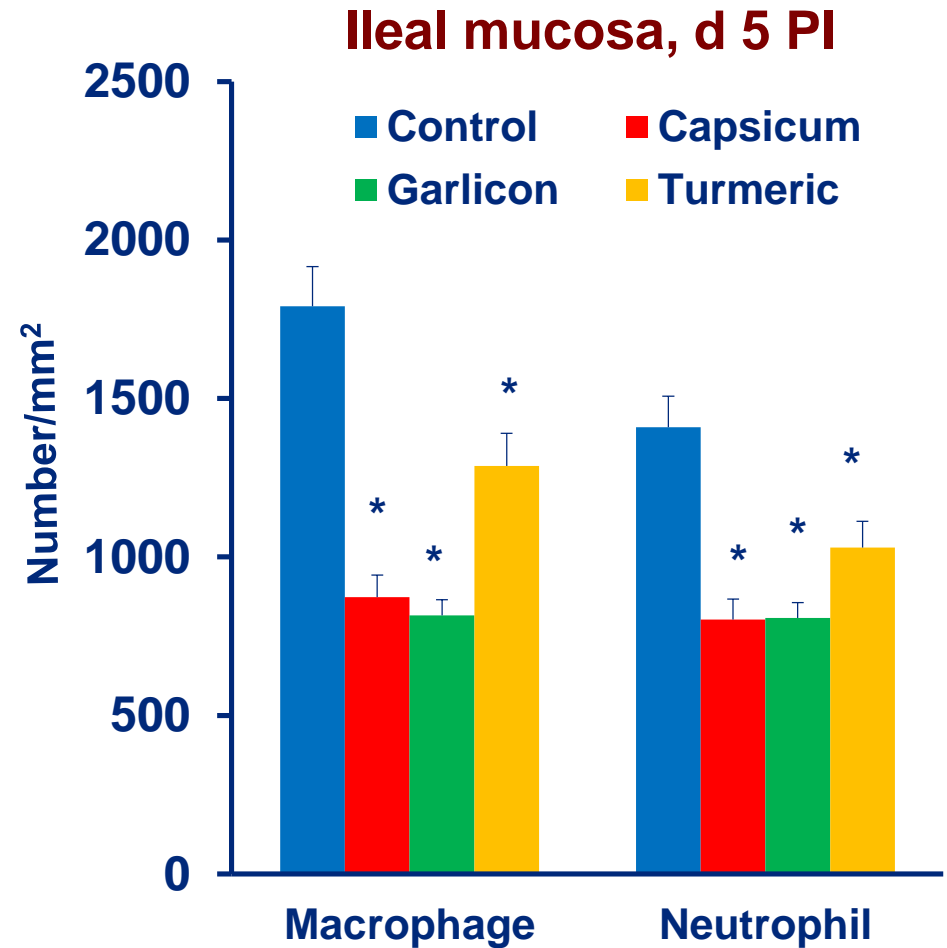


*Liu et al., 2013a*

# Plant extracts reduced gut inflammation caused by *E. coli* infection



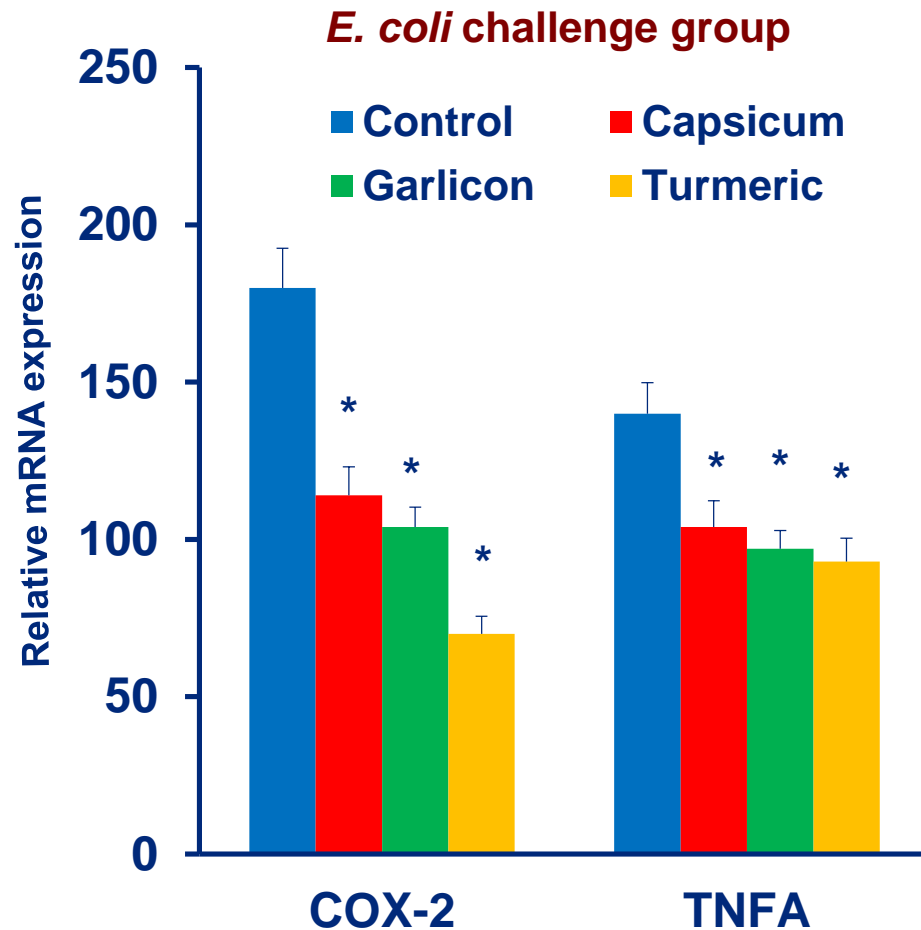
Ileum (d 5 PI)



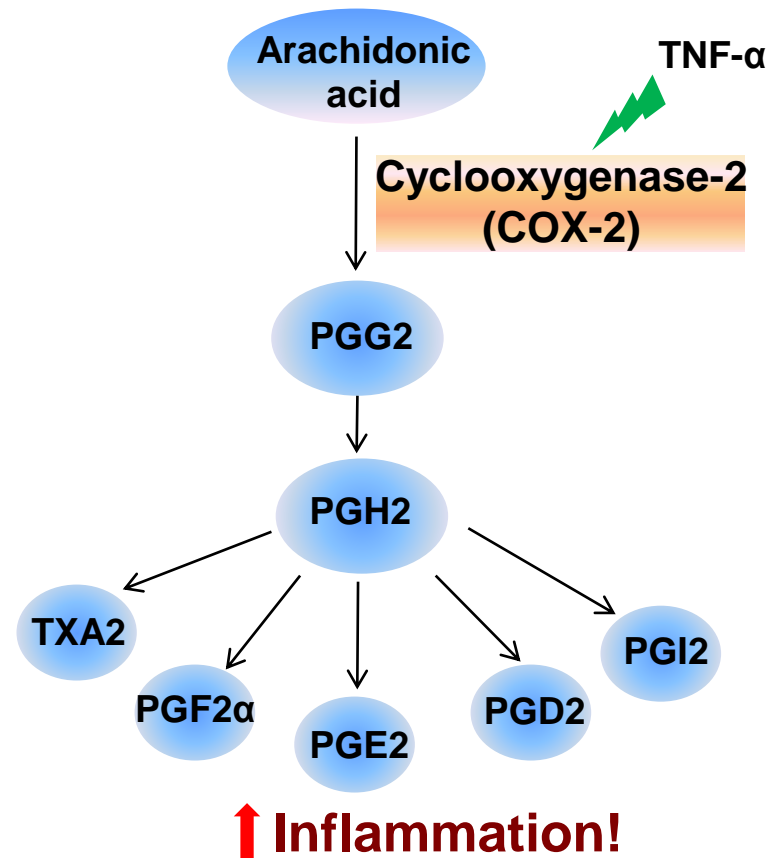
Liu et al., 2013a



# Plant extracts reduced gut inflammation caused by *E. coli* infection



## The Prostaglandin Pathway



Liu et al., 2014

# Conclusions – Exp. 2

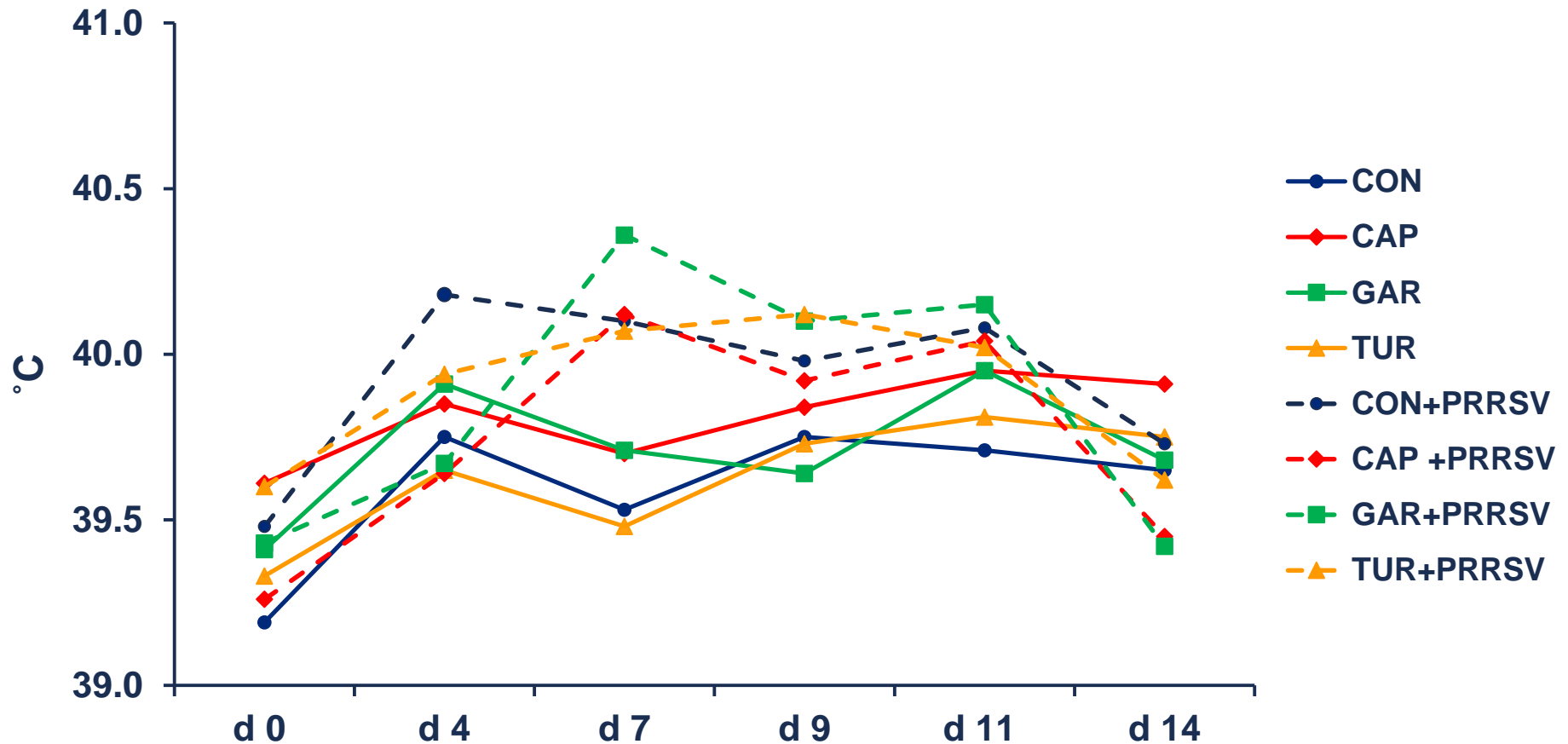
- **Feeding plant extracts reduced diarrhea and enhanced disease resistance of weanling pigs**
- **Possible mechanisms**
  - **Gut barrier function**
  - **Gut mucosa immunity**
  - **Systemic immunity**

# Experiment 3

**In vivo porcine reproductive and  
respiratory syndrome virus (PRRSV)  
challenge study**

*Liu et al., 2013b*

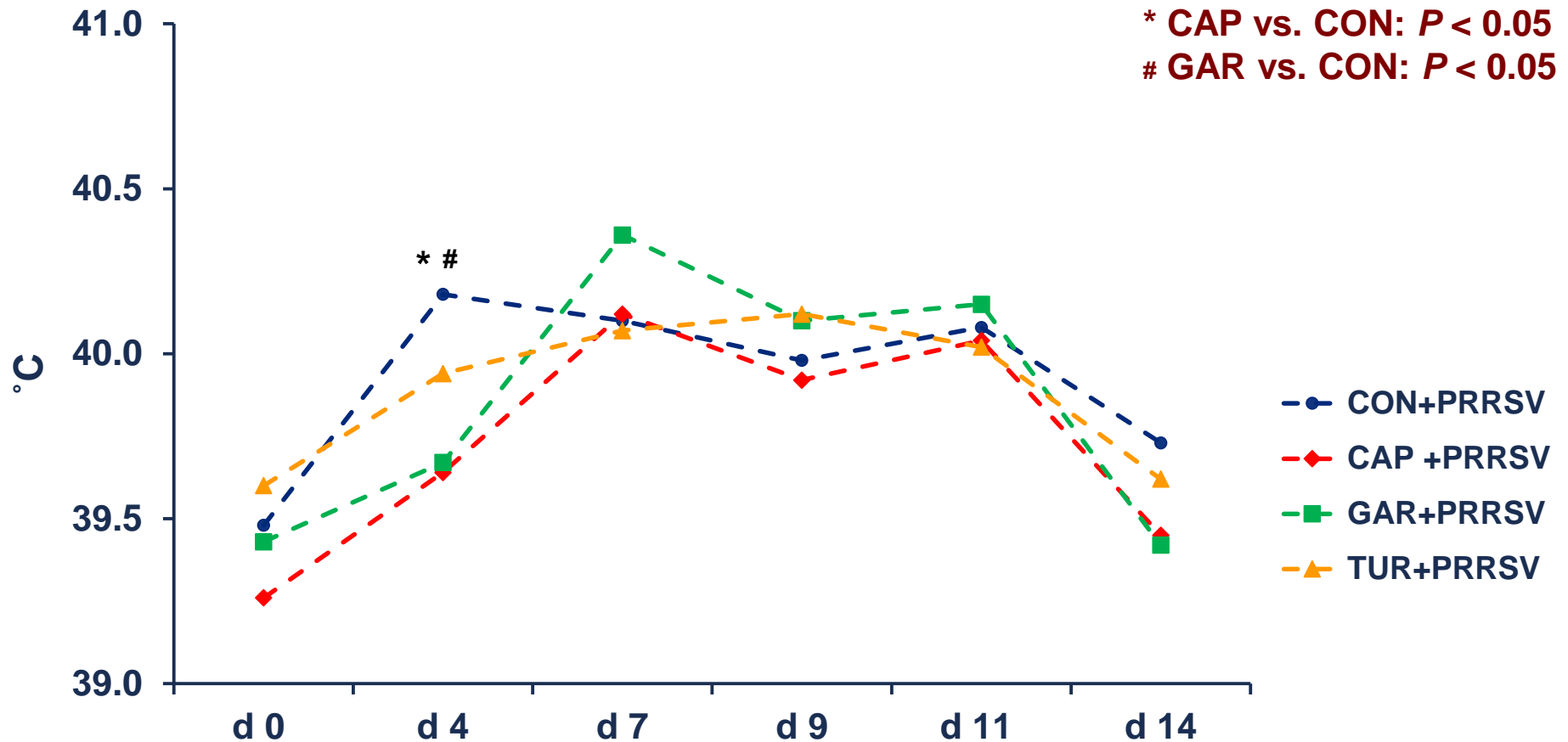
# Rectal temperature



d 7, 9, 11: PRRSV:  $P < 0.01$

*Liu et al., 2013b*

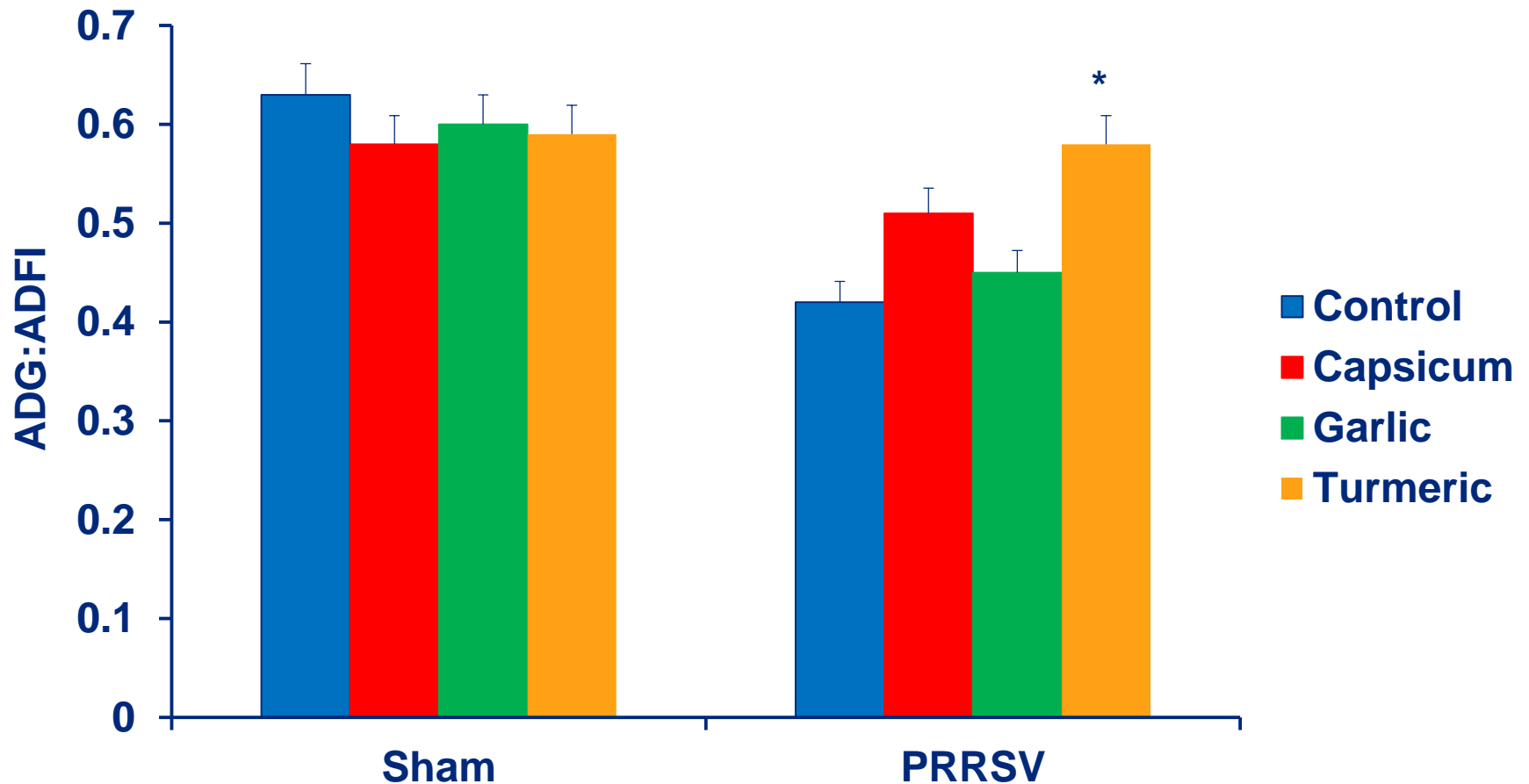
# Rectal temperature



d 7, 9, 11: PRRSV:  $P < 0.01$

*Liu et al., 2013b*

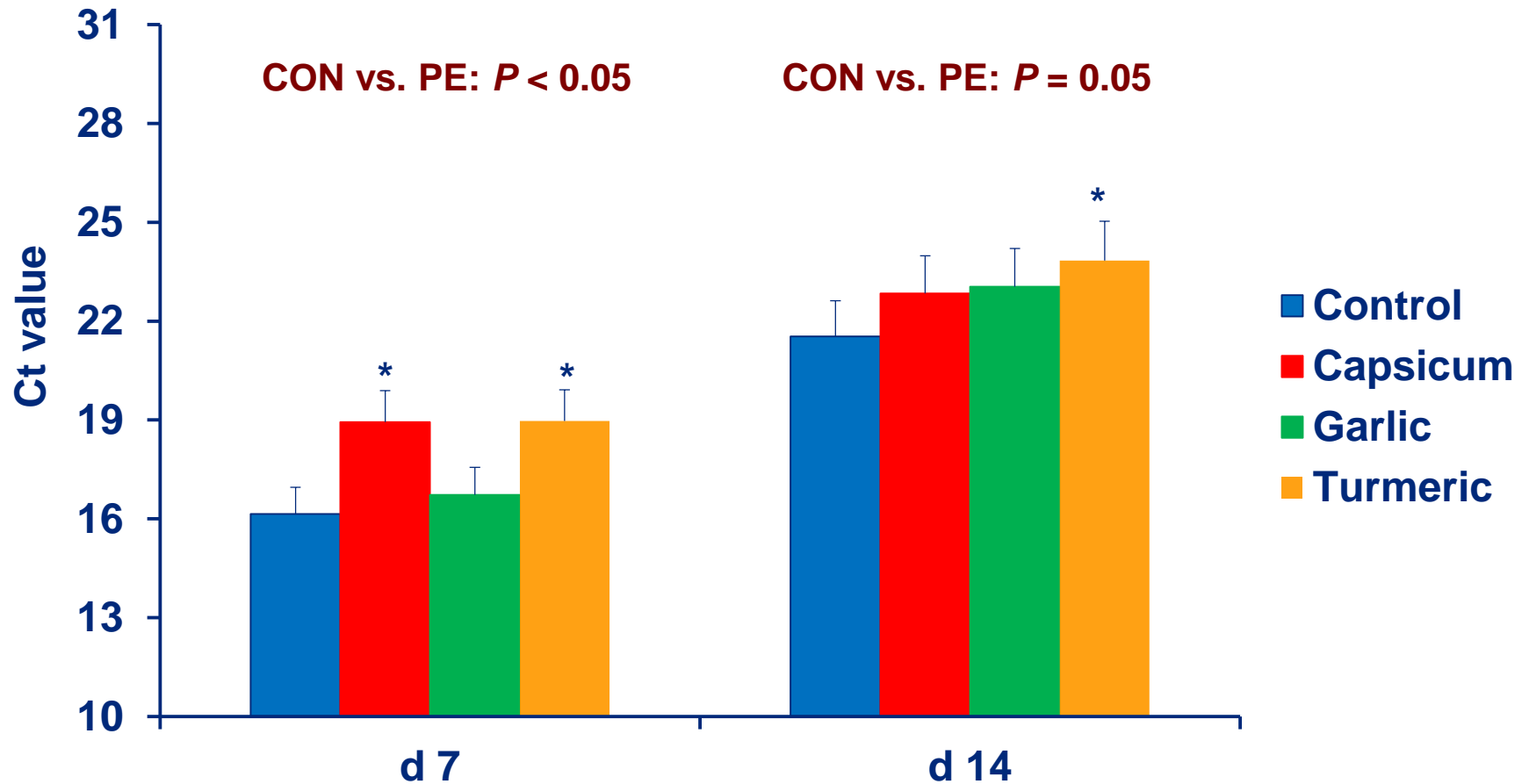
# Feed efficiency, d 0-14



PRRSV:  $P = 0.07$

*Liu et al., 2013b*

# Serum viral load-PRRSV

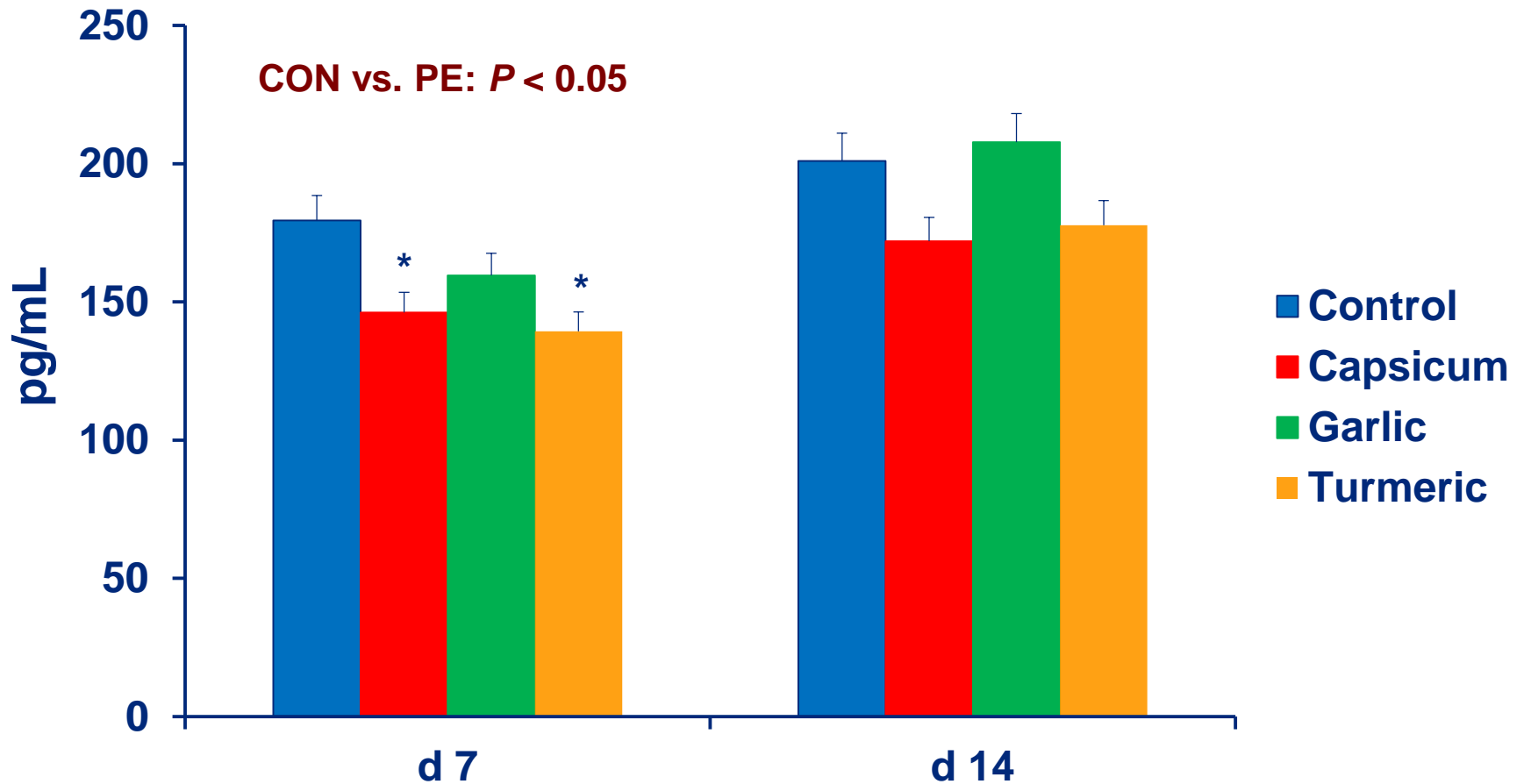


d 7 & 14: PRRSV:  $P < 0.01$

*Liu et al., 2013b*



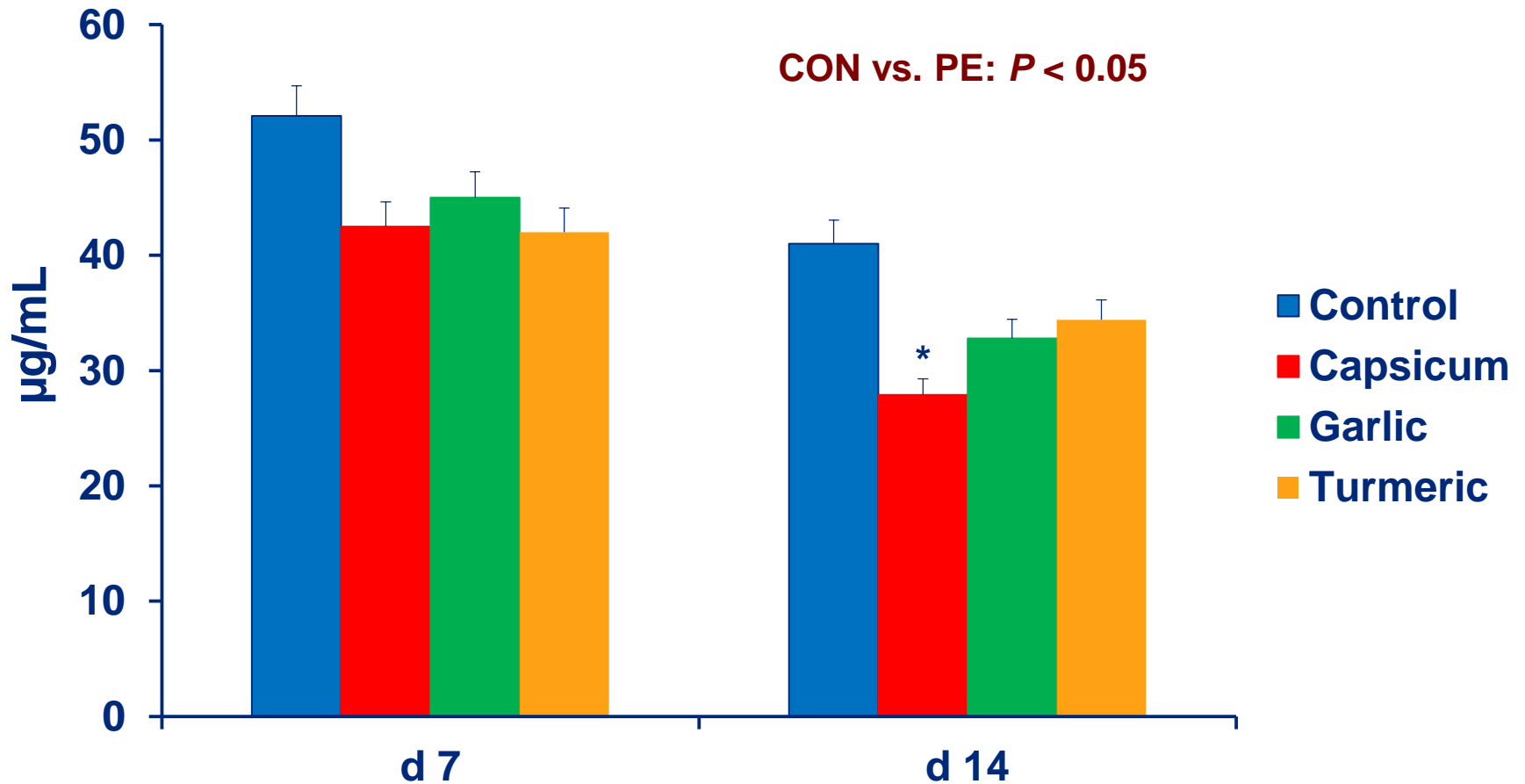
# Serum TNF- $\alpha$ - PRRSV



d 7 & 14: PRRSV:  $P < 0.01$

*Liu et al., 2013b*

# Serum C-reactive protein- PRRSV



d 7 & 14: PRRSV:  $P < 0.01$

*Liu et al., 2013b*

# Conclusions – Exp. 3

- **Feeding plant extracts delayed fever caused by PRRS infection**
- **Feeding plant extracts improved feed efficiency of pigs**
- **Possible mechanisms**
  - **Reduced viral load**
  - **Reduced systemic inflammation**



# Hypothesis

- 1) Certain plant extracts modify immune function of pigs **Accept**
- 2) This leads to increased disease resistance **Accept**

# Acknowledgements

- **Dr. Pettigrew lab – University of Illinois**
- **Pancosma**



# Comparative Animal Nutrition & Physiology Laboratory



**<http://animalnutr-ansci.faculty.ucdavis.edu/>**