

4.2 Immunosuppression

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BVD virus has an immunosuppressive effect and thereby favours infections with secondary or opportunistic pathogens. Of special importance is the synergy between BVDV and *Pasteurella haemolytica* type 1, which is characterized by a severe antibiotic-resistant pneumonia [80]. BVDV is thought to have an enhancing effect in the case of various other diseases: actinomycosis, stomatitis papulosa, salmonella enteritis, *E. coli*, acute helminthiasis, mastitis, metritis. In many cases a participation of BVDV appears covert in view of a lack of symptoms typical of BVD. While immunotolerance is highly specific, immune suppression is unspecific. Important mechanism of immune suppression include an in vivo induction of apoptosis of B and T cells in lymphoid tissue, a downregulation of MHC II and IL-2 or an activation of a T-helper 2 response by ncp BVD [81]. >> Figure: Immunosuppression & immune evasion <<