The Use of Immuno-Compromised Chickens as Sentinel Test Animals

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What is an Immuno-Compromised Chicken?

- Bursa of fabricius
  - Produces β-cells
  - Controls humoral response
- Removal impairs ability of birds to produce antibodies
- Hypersensitive to disease
Goals of the Project

- Use chickens as “disease paper”
- Different environments
- Spatiotemporal disease incidence map
- Disease risk associated with human impact
Wetlands
Agriculture
Forest
The Cages
The Results!!!!
Future Studies

- Step 1: Get results
- Perfect current methods
- Pathogen load
- Go global
  - Migratory birds
  - Zoonoses
  - Study potential vectors
  - Vertical Stratification