



**Bovine Serum Meeting: Challenges and opportunities
in the research and development and manufacture of vaccines and
other biological products**

**September 29-30, 2026
Virtual Meeting**

**Use of Bovine Serum and NGS testing of drug products: mitigation of inert viral
sequences while controlling the risk of viral contamination - Marc Eloit, Pathoquest**

The use of bovine serum (BS) in the production of biological products may introduce live viral contaminants or residual viral nucleic acids detectable by NGS. This presentation discusses risk-mitigation strategies, including NGS testing of BS batches as an ancillary study of potency tests by the drug manufacturer prior to use, and/or quantitative PCR screening for common contaminants. When viral sequences are detected in drug products, quantitative analyses can help distinguish true viral replication from inert background material. Together, these approaches support robust viral risk control and more reliable interpretation of NGS results in BS-containing manufacturing processes.

