Therapy with animal endocrine extracts is widespread, even in conventional medicine, but some countries, including Germany and France, have a long history of more extensive use of animal organ derivatives for therapeutic purposes. Organotherapeutic medicines in this broader sense may be derived from organs, cells, cell fractions, organ extracts, enzymes, or any combination of the above.1(p102-103)

The suis-organ products used in antihomotoxic therapy are homeopathically prepared (i.e., diluted and potentized) organ tissues produced from raw materials derived from healthy pigs and manufactured according to Regulations 42a (oral and external medications) or 42b (parenteral medications) of the German Homeopathic Pharmacopeia (HAB), as applicable. The designation “suis” (Latin, “pig”) indicates the origin of the raw materials. Suis-organ products expand the classical homeopathic repertory to cover functional organ disorders and degenerative organ damage (for more information about the rationale behind and use of suis-organ medications in antihomotoxic medicine, see BT 2/2007, pp. 16-17). According to Schmid, “Organ preparations are medicinal products which contain several, or all, tissue components of an organ. In addition to the differentiated cellular constituents – e.g., liver cells, kidney cells, cerebrum cells, blood cells, bone marrow cells, and thymus cells – these preparations also contain connective vascular tissue and ground substance (stromata).” 1(pp102)

Ideal donor animal
Pig tissues are the obvious choice in view of the many chemical, biological, physiological, and morphological similarities between this species and the human organism – similarities that have even led to attempts to
substitute pig organs for scarce human organs in transplantation medicine. From the homeopathic perspective, a pig-derived potentized organ product can be considered a “simile” of the homologous human organ(s). For this reason, stronger effects are being attributed to pig organ preparations than to products derived from cattle or sheep.2

Breeding and husbandry
Pigs destined to supply the raw materials for homeopathic organ extracts for antihomotoxic medications are provided by a breeding operation that is certified to be free of specific pathogens and under constant veterinary oversight to ensure compliance with all applicable hygiene regulations of the German Federal Ministry of Agriculture. The brood sows all come from the same breeding line. The future donor pigs stay with their mother until they are six weeks old, and her milk is their primary food until they are weaned. After weaning, the litter stays together and the piglets are raised separately from other pigs to prevent the stress and fights for dominance that may ensue if new animals are introduced into the group. The animals’ stalls are cleaned and disinfected before occupancy. The breeding operation must abide by all of the Ministry of Agriculture’s hygiene regulations applicable to hog rearing, including requirements for proper cleaning and effective disinfection. Non-employees must wear either disposable outer garments or protective clothing provided by the company, and their shoes must be cleaned and disinfected before entering the stall areas.

The pigs’ fodder consists entirely of plant materials (cereal groats) grown on the farm itself, supplemented with purchased protein (soy groats) and minerals. The soy groats are organically grown to ensure that this critical feedstuff is free of genetically engineered products. Feeding of food scraps or animal by-product meals from mammals is both legally and contractually forbidden. In addition to monitoring by the state Animal Health Service for compliance with all health directives applicable to animal breeding operations, the animals are checked both at regular intervals and as needed by the company’s veterinarian. They are also examined by the district veterinary officer before shipping out.

Safety measures
Ensuring the microbiological safety of the final products involves an extensive checklist of procedures. Suitable sample tissues are selected for testing for the zoonotic pathogens most common in pigs. In southern Germany, where the pigs are raised, Salmonella spp., Campylobacter spp., and Yersinia spp. are the most relevant. Tests for these and other pathogens must be negative if the animal’s tissues are to be used in manufacturing suis-organ medicines. Separate records of test results are kept for each animal. Also available for reference are two files of materials from groups of experts. These files list and discuss all diseases known to occur in pigs, describe which of these diseases might theoretically occur in the geographical area and under the conditions in which the donor pigs were raised, and explain the measures to be taken to eliminate the possibility of using animals infected with these (theoretically possible) diseases.

The above-mentioned standards of livestock husbandry, feeding, and hygiene along with the combination of clinical, microbiological, and serological tests (some of which exceed government requirements) minimize the risk of using organs contaminated with hog-borne zoonotic pathogens and maximize the safety of the final organ products.

References:

Left:
The fodder of the donor pigs consists of cereal groats, organically-grown soy groats, and minerals.

Right:
Proper cleaning and disinfecting of the animals’ stalls are effected according to the requirements of the Ministry of Agriculture’s hygiene regulations.