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*Cornell University*

“Characterization of a novel *Mycoplasma cynos* real-time PCR assay”

Rebecca Tallmadge’s scientific training has focused on equine immunogenetics and immunodeficiencies. She completed her PhD project with Dr. Douglas Antczak of the Baker Institute for Animal Health at Cornell University, which entailed investigation into the genomic and polymorphic attributes of equine MHC class I genes.



**Roopa Venugopalan**  
*Cornell University*

“Johne’s direct fecal high-throughput PCR assay for detecting *Mycobacterium avium* subsp. *paratuberculosis* using magnetic bead-based technology”

Roopa Venugopalan currently serves as Assistant Manager for the Molecular Diagnostics Section of the New York Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory at Cornell University. She has been with AHDC for 10 y in the role of diagnostic technologist for 9 y and promoted to assistant manager in 2017.

### **JVDI Best Full Manuscript Award**

*Jianqiang Zhang, Ying Zheng, Xiao-Qin Xia, Qi Chen, Sarah A. Bade, Kyoung-Jin Yoon, Karen M. Harmon, Phillip C. Gauger, Rodger G. Main, Ganwu Li*

High-throughput whole genome sequencing of *Porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome virus* from cell culture materials and clinical specimens using next-generation sequencing technology. *J Vet Diagn Invest* 2017;29:41–50.

### **JVDI Best Brief Communication Award**

*Melissa Goolia, Fabio Vannucci, Ming Yang, Devi Patnayak, Shawn Babiuk, Charles K. Nfon*

Validation of a competitive ELISA and a virus neutralization test for the detection and confirmation of antibodies to *Senecavirus A* in swine sera. *J Vet Diagn Invest* 2017;29:250–253.