CONSIDERATIONS:

- Select pigs that are beginning to show clinical signs.
- Euthanize pigs according to farm protocol.
- Confirm death prior to beginning the necropsy.
- Use a sharp knife.
- Older animals may be more difficult to necropsy.
- Use personal protective equipment.
- Use clean supplies to avoid sample contamination.
- Label samples with permanent marker.

SUPPLIES:

- Knife

Necropsy Instructions:

**Step 1.**
After confirming death, place carcass on its back. Cut down front and hind limbs to stabilize.

**Step 2.**
Cut vertically through skin from front limbs toward the jaw.

**Step 3.**
Pull the skin underneath mouth, while cutting parallel to the body.

**Step 4.**
Cut through the cartilage of the ribs to expose the heart and lungs. Knife depth may need to be adjusted depending on animal size.

**Step 5.**
Continue to pull skin back and cut until all organs are exposed.

**Step 6.**
Separate the right and left ribs by cutting between the first ribs and pushing apart each half of the rib cage. If difficult to separate, cut between each rib and break individually.

Collection Instructions:

Refer to desired sample handout (e.g. tonsil, lymph node, spleen)

Collaborators:
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