



# History

- Faulkner LC, Pineda MH, Reimers TJ, <u>Immunization</u>
  against gonadotropins in dogs, in Immunization With
  Hormones in Reproduction Research, pp. 199-214, 1975. (38 years)
  - Dog GnRH vaccine approved by USDA for treatment of BPH
  - Deer, wild horse vaccine approved by EPA (GonaCon)
- Mahi-Brown CA, Huang TTF Jr., Yamagimachi R, <u>Infertility</u> in bitches induced by active immunization with porcine zonae pellucidae. J Exp Zool 222: 89-95, 1982. (31 yrs)
  - No dog or cat vaccine approved
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    Horse PZP vaccine approved by the EPA

## **Barriers**

Duration of immunity-boosters required



- · Safety (injection site)
- Regulatory hurdles
- Technical difficulties
- Product development costs





### **GnRH Vaccine**

#### Pfizer Animal Health (Zoetis)

- "Canine GnRH immunotherapeutic for treatment of benign prostatic hypertrophy in male dogs"
  - Two doses 4-6 wks apart; repeat every 6 months
  - No longer on the market
- Improvac<sup>®</sup>
  - Approved for cattle (behavior) and pigs (boar taint)
  - Effective for male elephants to suppress musht



## **Current Immunocontraceptives**

- GnRH vaccines
  - Effective in males, females (deer, wild horses, cattle, pigs)
- Zona pellucida vaccine
  - Effective in females (horses)
  - Species differences (porcine doesn't work in cats)

# Where are we now?



- Exploring a GnRH vaccine based on GonaCon (different formulation) for applications in dogs (Dr. Lecuona)
- "Bleeding edge" research on methods to achieve single treatment very long term immunity (Drs. Munk and Samoylova)



# The future for immunocontraception for dogs and cats?

- Single injection very long term (>5 years to permanent) suppression of fertility for males and females
- When and at what cost? (The LR estimate\*)
  - Five years of research \$10M
  - Five years of development \$15M

\*optimistic

