



UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI DI NAPOLI  
FEDERICO II



Dipartimento  
**Medicina Veterinaria**  
Produzioni Animali



# ***EFFECT OF BENZATHINE CLOXACILLIN IN DAIRY WATER BUFFALO AT DRY-OFF: PRELIMINARY RESULTS***

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# Introduction

Mastitis is one of the most expensive pathologies for the farmer and the dairy food chain <sup>a</sup>



***S. aureus*** is one of the most common contagious bacteria causing mastitis in Mediterranean buffaloes (MB)



J. Dairy Sci. 97:7606–7613

<http://dx.doi.org/10.3168/jds.2014-8455>

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**Clinical outcomes and molecular genotyping of *Staphylococcus aureus* isolated from milk samples of dairy primiparous Mediterranean buffaloes (*Bubalus bubalis*)**

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In-herd prevalence up to 55% of the milking animals

## The udder status under the clinical point of view<sup>a</sup>

Status	Values SCC (Cells/ml)	Microbiological status	Clinical signs
Healthy	SCC ≤ 200'000	Negative	Absent
Infected	SCC ≤ 200'000	<b>Positive</b>	Absent
<b>Mastitis-grade1 (SCM)</b>	SCC > 200'000	<b>Positive</b>	Absent
<b>Mastitis-grade2 (CM)</b>	SCC > 200'000	<b>Positive</b>	<b>Present (Udder)</b>
<b>Mastitis-grade3 (CM)</b>	SCC > 200'000	<b>Positive</b>	<b>Present (general state)</b>

<sup>a</sup> Tripaldi et al., 2010, Guccione et al., 2014; Guccione et al., 2017

## Dry-off and dry period in MB

Dry-off: milk yield  $< 0.5$  L/day<sup>a</sup>

Not performed in all the farms<sup>a</sup>

A few of them perform dry-therapy<sup>b</sup>

None scientific evidence of drugs efficacy<sup>b</sup>


## Benzathine cloxacillin

### Semi-synthetic penicillin



- Intramammary administrated

Kietzmann *et al.* *BMC Veterinary Research* 2010, **6**:46  
<http://www.biomedcentral.com/1746-6148/6/46>

 BMC  
Veterinary Research

RESEARCH ARTICLE

Open Access

## Tissue distribution of cloxacillin after intramammary administration in the isolated perfused bovine udder

Manfred Kietzmann<sup>1\*</sup>, Frank Niedorf<sup>1</sup>, Jacques Gossellin<sup>2</sup>

## Benzathine cloxacillin

- Bactericidal action against Gram + microorganisms



- Selective and blanket treatment at dry-off





## Benzathine cloxacillin

### ■ Alone or associated with teat sealant



J. Dairy Sci. 93:4582–4591  
 doi:10.3168/jds.2009-2956  
 © American Dairy Science Association®, 2010.

**The use of an internal teat sealant in combination with cloxacillin dry cow therapy for the prevention of clinical and subclinical mastitis in seasonal calving dairy cows**

D. J. Runciman,\*<sup>1</sup> J. Malmo,\* and M. Deighton†

### ■ Reduction of mastitis in fresh animals and increase of milk quality



New Zealand Veterinary Journal



ISSN: 0048-0169 (Print) 1176-0710 (Online) Journal homepage: <http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/tnzv20>

**A comparison of the effect of short-acting and long-acting cloxacillin-based dry-cow therapy on somatic cell counts after calving in cows also given internal teat sealants**

L. K. Whitfield & R. A. Laven



The aims of the study was:

To evaluate the **clinical efficacy** against *S. aureus* **infections** of an intramammary administration of benzathine cloxacillin in buffaloes at dry-off

# Material and methods

## Materials and methods



## Farm selection

- Chosed from a group of 8 randomly selected
- South Italy and monthly monitored
- BTMSCC 9 months, September 2016 - May 2017

## Selected Farm

- **Herd:** approximately **400 dairy MB**
- **Proportion of MB > 200<sup>3</sup> SCC:** 39.8 % (9-month average)
- **Proportion of MB with chronic infection:** 22,2 % (9-month average)
- **Average SCC:** 256<sup>3</sup> (9-month average)
- **Bulk tank milk analysis:** out of n°9 samplings, n°7 positive for *S. aureus*

Materials and methods

Animals enrolment

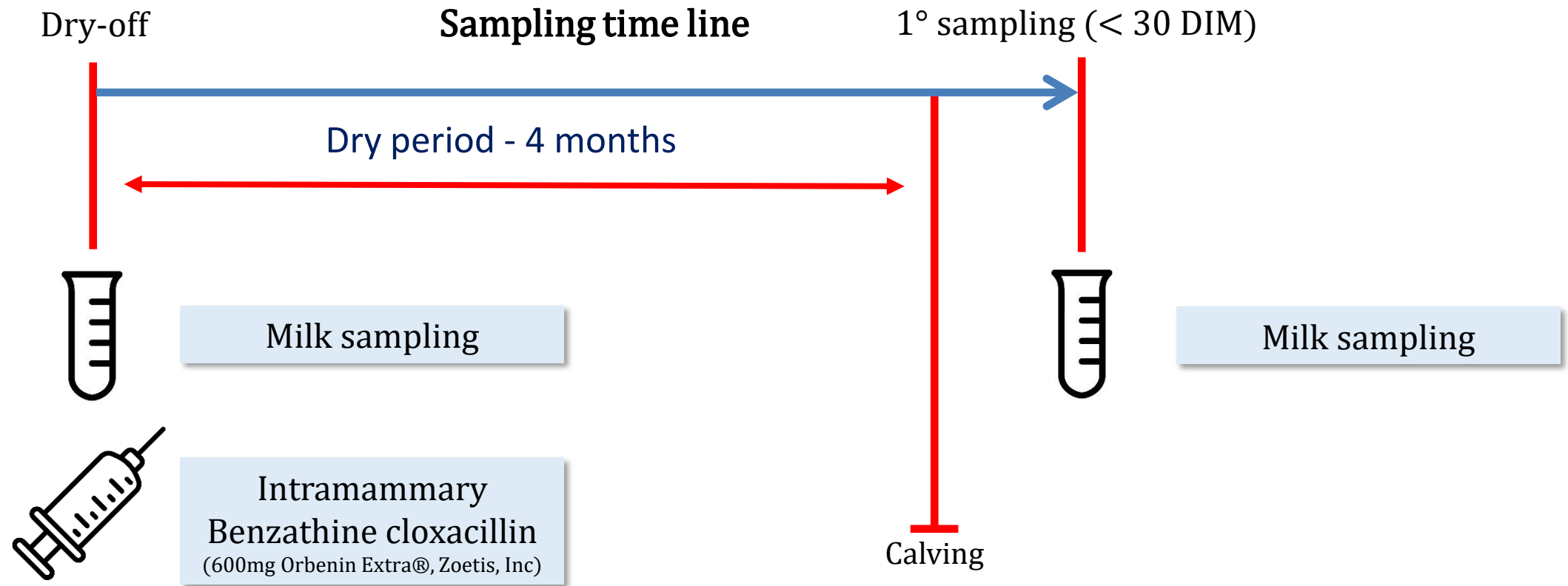
40 pluriparous MB randomly chosen



N° 160 quarters in total:

- 80 as treatment group (TG)
- 80 as control group (CG)

## Sampling for each buffalo



- **Herd Management:** buffaloes dry-off period is approximately 4-months long



**Materials and methods****Sampling for each buffalo****• Assessment of udder health status**

- Quarter milk sampling<sup>a</sup>
- Cooled (4°C), and brought to the lab. within 1 h
- Bacteriological milk culture (BMC)
- Somatic cell count (SCC)

**• Daily milk yield recordings**

- Standard descriptive statistics and normality was assessed using Shapiro Wilk tests <sup>a</sup>
- Data are expressed as absolute numbers, percentages <sup>a</sup>
- The variables were compared using histograms and or non-parametric test ( $\chi^2$  -test, Fisher test) <sup>a</sup>
- **P**roBABILITIES < 0.05 were considered significant

### Mastitis monitoring indexes

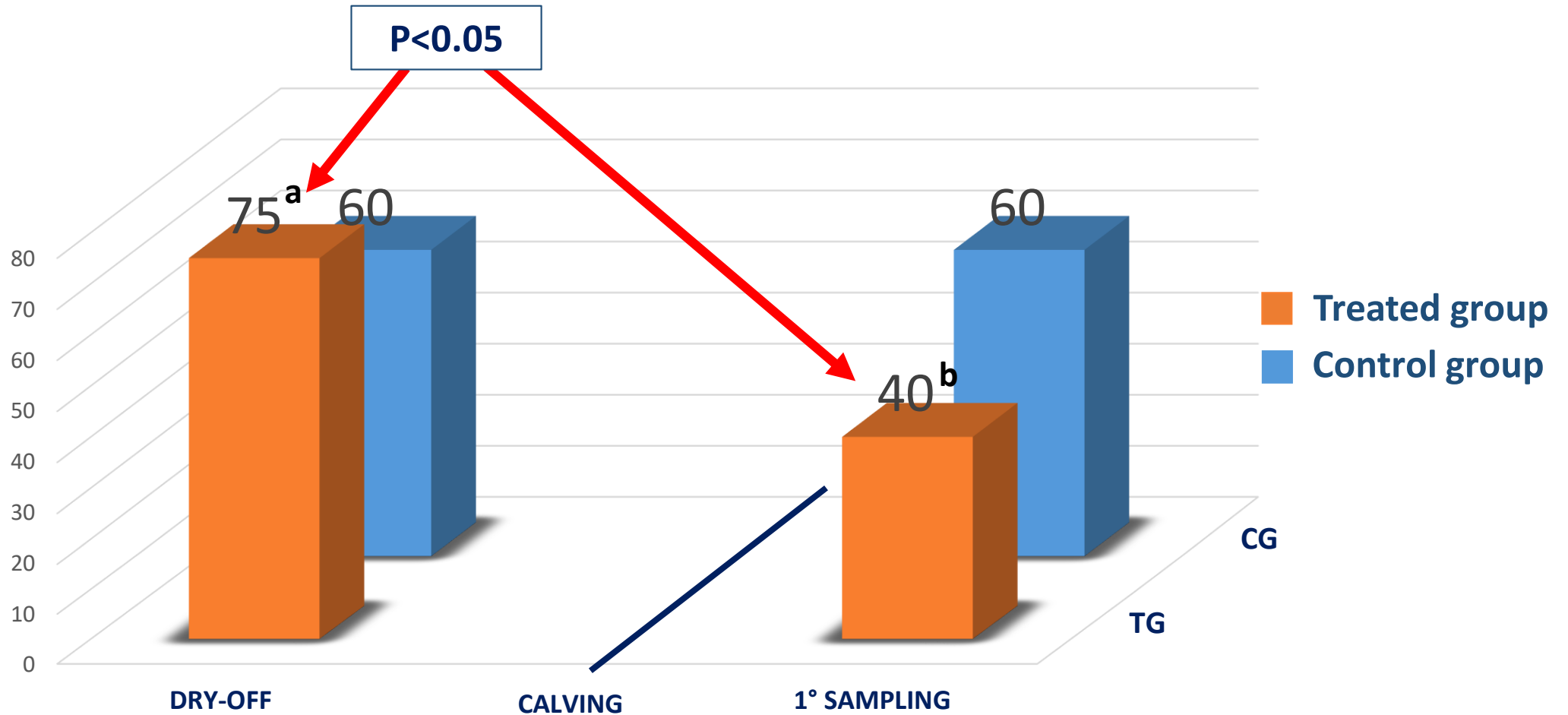
- Prevalence of animals/quarters with IMI, SCM and CM due to *S. aureus*
- Fresh calver infection rate
- Dry period new infection rate
- Dry period cure rate
- Failure to cure rate

<sup>a</sup> SPSS software package, Version 17.0, Chicago, IL, U.S.A.

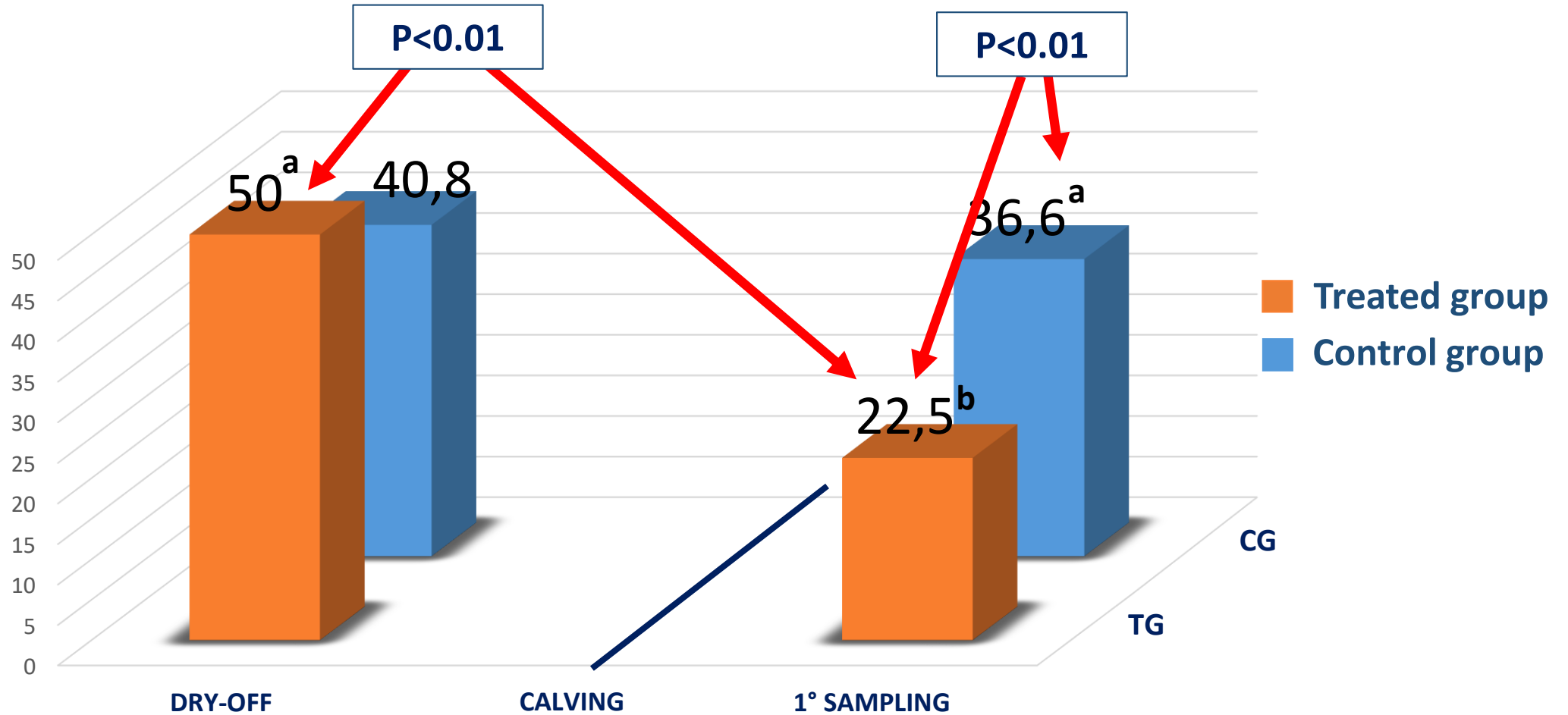


Results

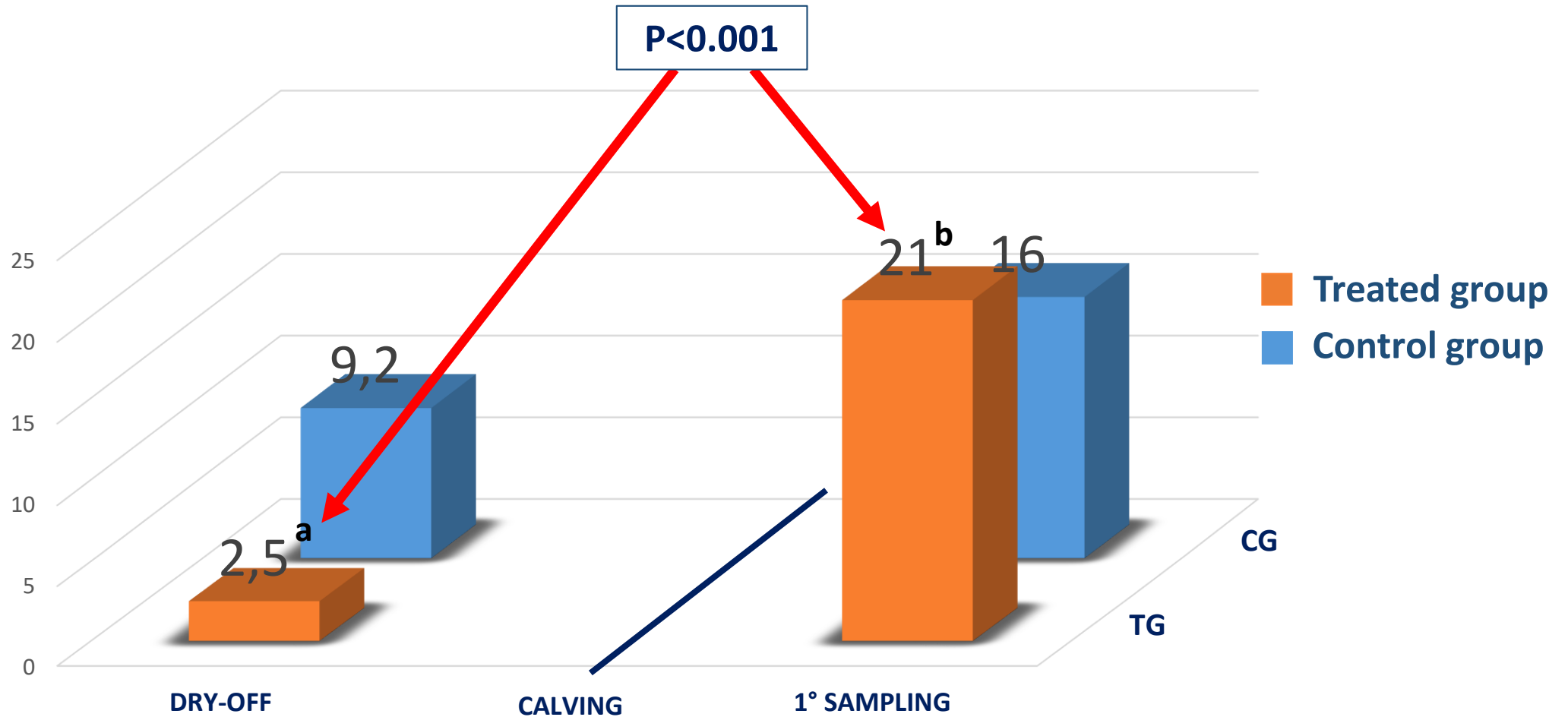
## Results

Prevalence of positive animals for *S. aureus* (%)

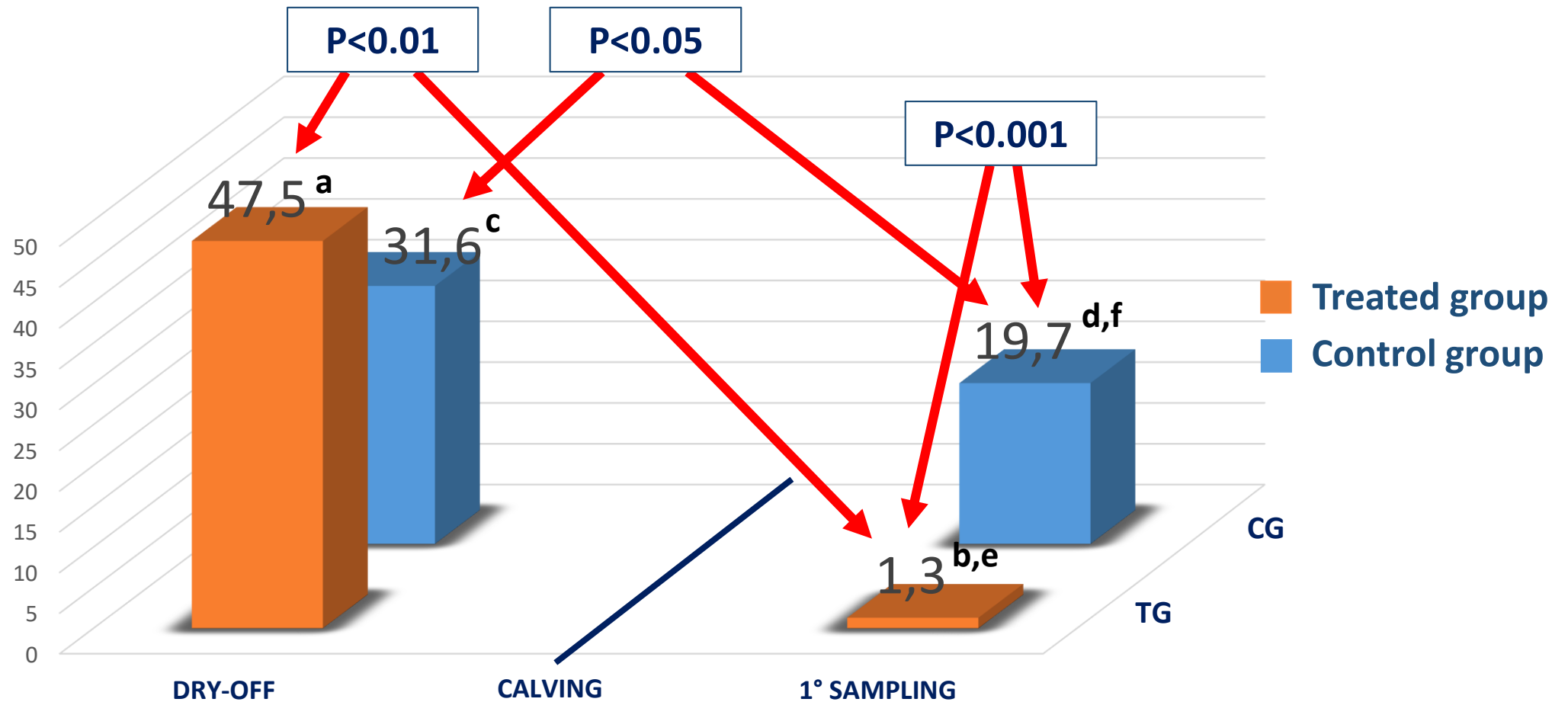
## Results

Prevalence of positive quarters for *S. aureus* (%)

## Results

Prevalence of intramammary infections due to *S. aureus* (%)

## Results

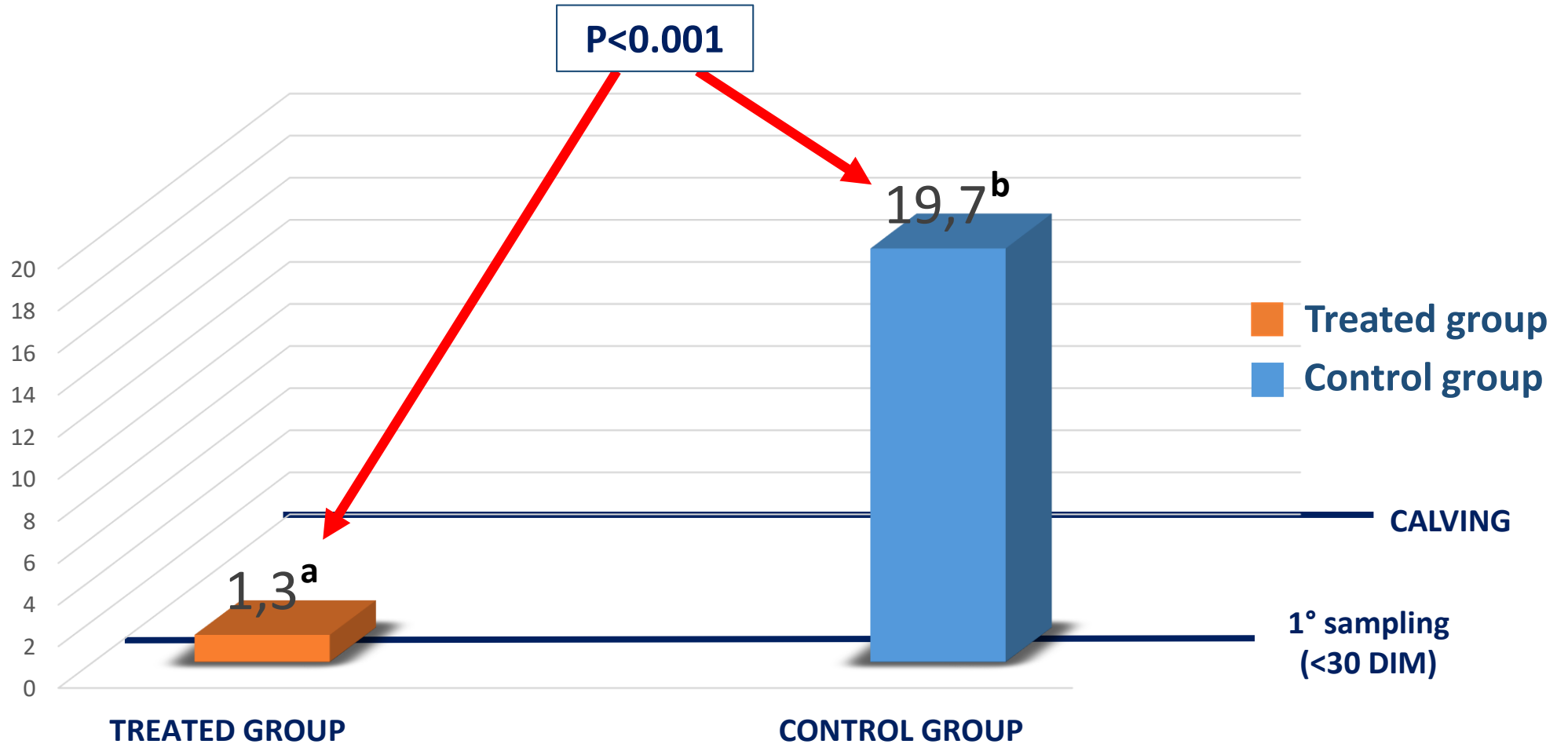
Prevalence of subclinical mastitis due to *S. aureus* (%)

- **CLINICAL MASTITIS**: NO CM WERE RECORDED AT EACH SAMPLING TIME

## Results

## Fresh calver infection rate for *S. aureus* (%)

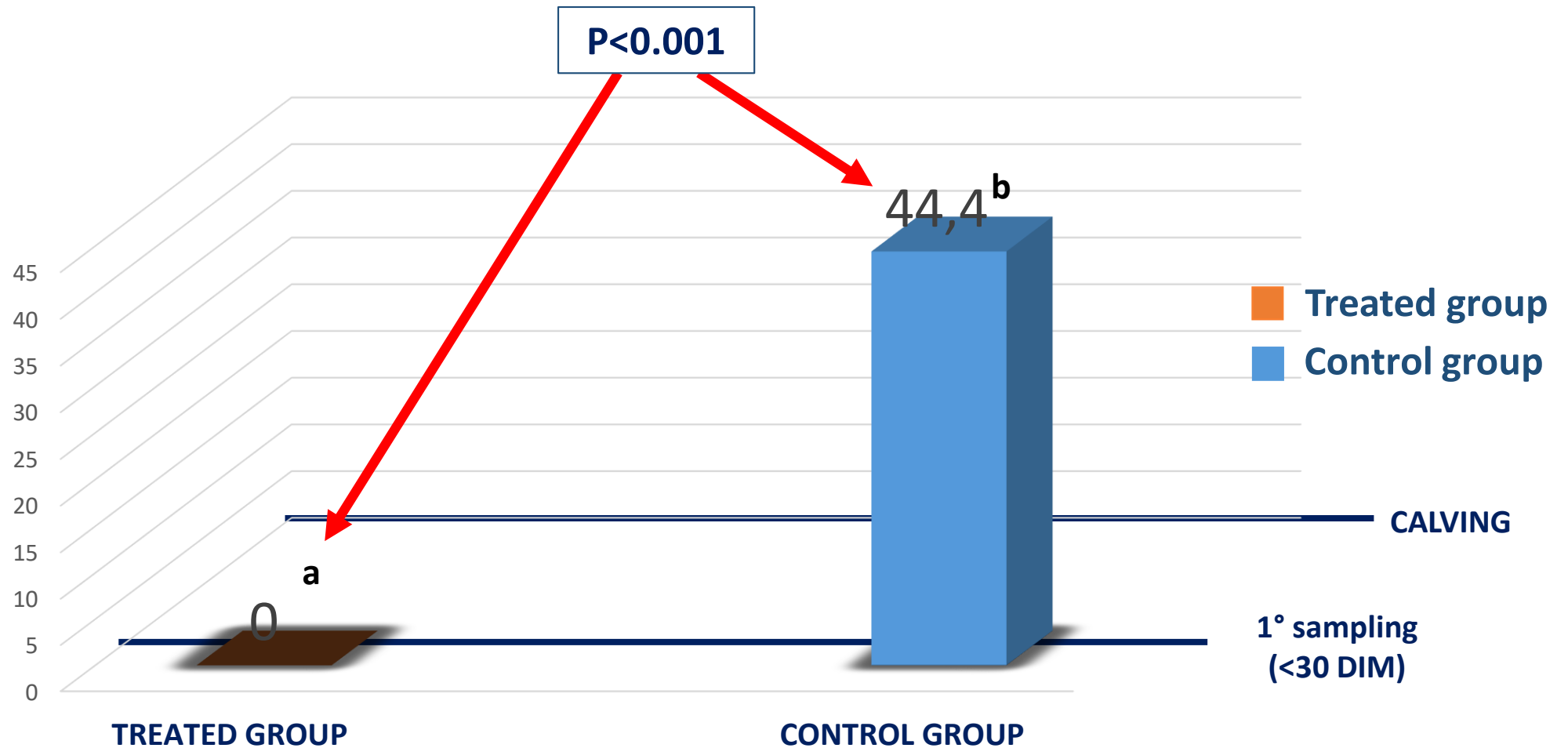
(>200k at 1° sampling)



## Results

Dry period new infection rate for *S. aureus* (%)

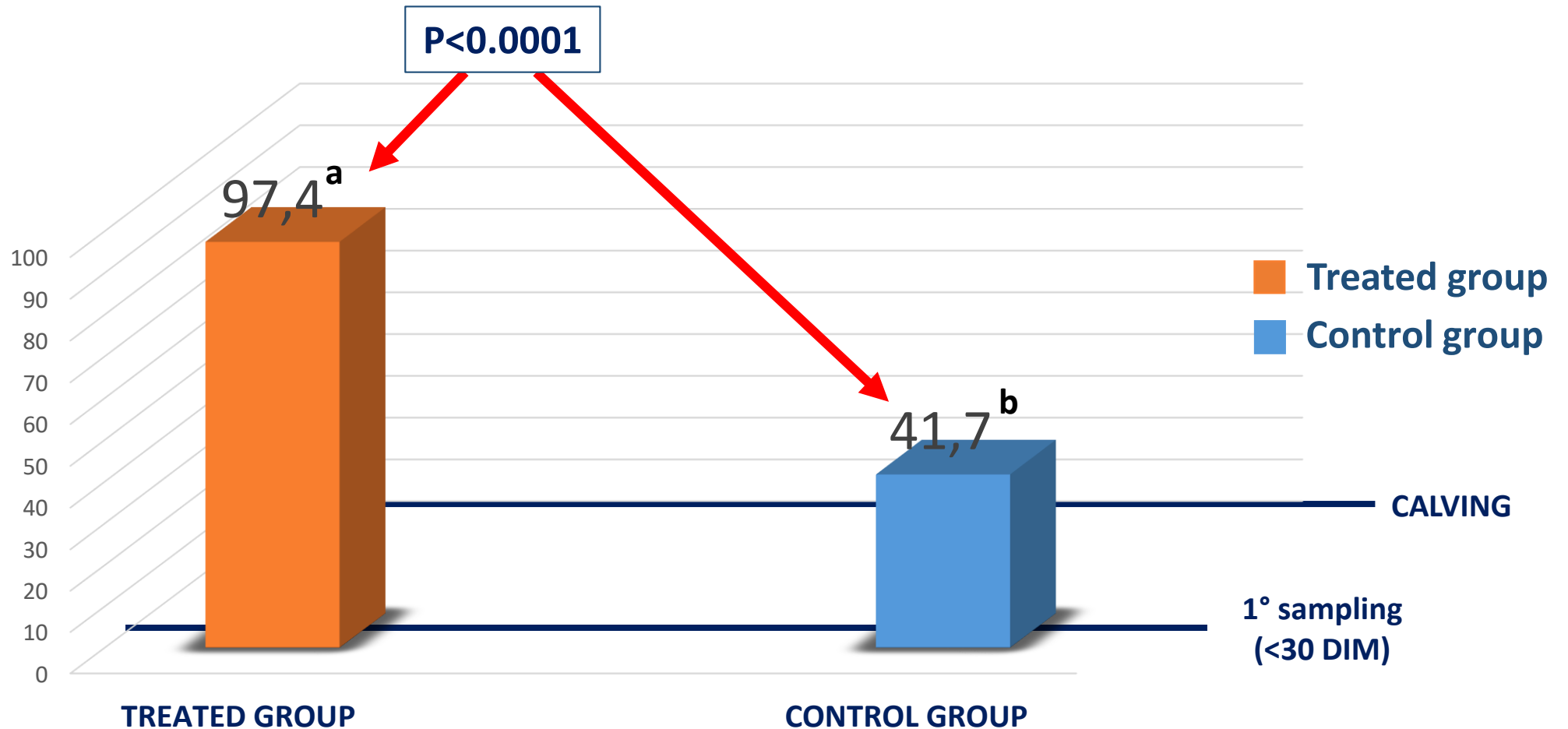
(&lt;200k at dry-off → &gt;200k at 1° sampling)



## Results

Dry period cure rate for *S. aureus* (%)

(&gt;200k at dry-off → &lt;200k at 1° sampling)

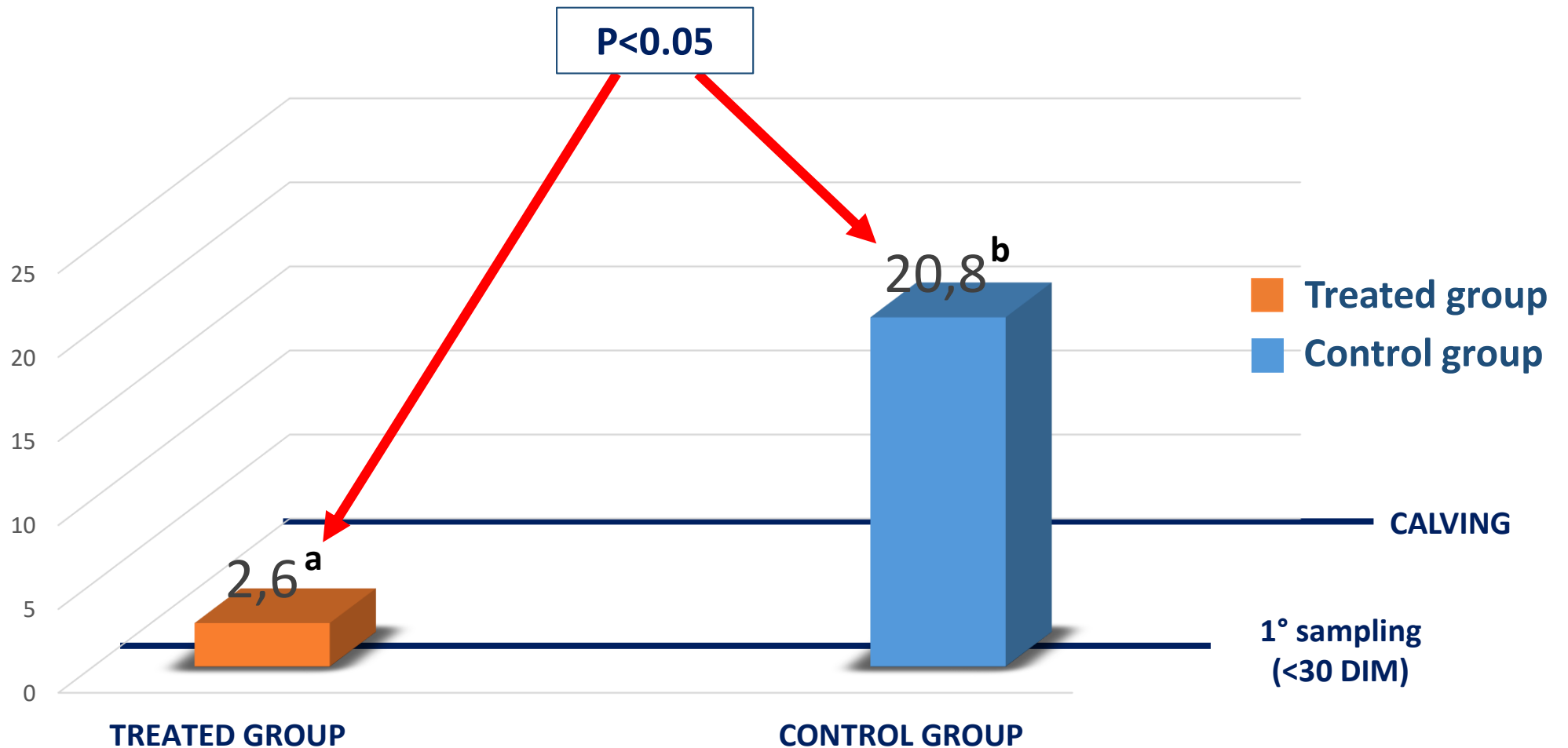




## Results

Failure to cure rate for *S. aureus* (%)

(&gt;200k at dry-off → &gt;200k at 1° sampling)



Discussion and conclusion

The effects of benzathine cloxacillin against in-udder *S. aureus* infections were investigated for the first time in MB



As in cows<sup>a</sup>, overall the antibiotic seems to show encouraging results, nevertheless a different length of the dry period

<sup>a</sup> Kietzmann et al. 2010, Rouncinman et al. 2010

## Discussion and conclusion

As in cow<sup>a</sup>, it shows a potential efficacy in fresh MB

↓ Prevalence of positive quarters in fresh MB

↓ Rates of mastitis (SCM within 1° sampling)


↑ dry period cure rate efficacy

Poor effects on IMI after calving



**Discussion and conclusion**

As in cows <sup>a</sup>,  
the use may be hypothesized :



as support to improve the dry period management  
in MB's farm affected by high SCC due to *S. aureus*



**Herd management:** use associated with complete herd management programs  
for mastitis due to contagious pathogens

## Further data analysis:

- Effects on milk yield
- Effects on farm's incomes
- Effects on other Gram+ bacteria

## Further investigation:

- To verify the efficacy on an entire herd!
- To evaluate a combined use with teat sealant!
- To assess the clinical efficacy during selective treatment!







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*Thank you  
for your attention!*

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