

## Accepted Manuscript

Title: Drivers of *Bartonella* infection in micromammals and their fleas in a Mediterranean peri-urban area

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PII: S0378-1135(16)30611-3  
DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/doi:10.1016/j.vetmic.2017.03.023>  
Reference: VETMIC 7584

To appear in: *VETMIC*

Received date: 3-11-2016  
Revised date: 10-3-2017  
Accepted date: 13-3-2017

Please cite this article as: Cevidanes, Aitor, Altet, Laura, Chirife, Andrea D., Proboste, Tatiana, Millán, Javier, Drivers of *Bartonella* infection in micromammals and their fleas in a Mediterranean peri-urban area. *Veterinary Microbiology* <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.vetmic.2017.03.023>

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**Drivers of *Bartonella* infection in micromammals and their fleas in a Mediterranean peri-urban area**

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**Highlights**

- *Bartonella* (12 haplotypes) were identified in 49% of periurban micromammals and in 58% of flea pools
- *Bartonella* prevalence varied depending on flea infestation level, host relative abundance, season and sex
- Prevalence in flea pools was only explained by *Bartonella* occurrence in the pool host.
- In general, prevalence did not differ between natural and residential areas.
- 66% of fetuses from all the analyzed litters were infected, indicating that vertical transmission could be important

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