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Authors: Gianvito Lanave, Alessandra Cavalli, Vito Martella, Tommaso Fontana, Ruggero Losappio, Maria Tempesta, Nicola Decaro, Domenico Buonavoglia, Michele Camero



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**Ribavirin and boceprevir are able to reduce Canine distemper virus growth *in vitro***

Gianvito Lanave <sup>a</sup>, Alessandra Cavalli <sup>a</sup>, Vito Martella <sup>a</sup>, Tommaso Fontana <sup>b</sup>, Ruggero Losappio <sup>b</sup>, Maria Tempesta <sup>a</sup>, Nicola Decaro <sup>a</sup>, Domenico Buonavoglia <sup>a</sup>, Michele Camero <sup>a,\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Department of Veterinary Medicine, University Aldo Moro of Bari, Valenzano, Italy

<sup>b</sup> Department of Infectious Diseases, Hospital Unit of Bisceglie, Bisceglie, Italy

\* Corresponding author:

Michele Camero

Department of Veterinary Medicine, University Aldo Moro of Bari

S.p. per Casamassima Km 3, 70010, Valenzano, Bari, Italy

Tel: 0039 080 4679838

Fax: 0039 080 4679843

Mail: michele.camero@uniba.it

**Highlights**

- Ribavirin and boceprevir were evaluated against Canine Distemper Virus(CDV)
- Ribavirin and boceprevir significantly decreased CDV replication *in vitro*
- Anti-virals could broaden the therapeutic resources effective against CDV

**Summary**

Canine distemper virus (CDV) is a major infectious disease of dogs. Although vaccines were successful to control CDV spread in canine population, the disease is still common and may pose a threat to unvaccinated dogs. In the attempt to develop specific anti-viral therapeutic tools, the efficacy of several molecules against CDV has been investigated *in vitro*. In this study the antiviral efficacy *in vitro* against CDV of ribavirin and boceprevir alone or in combination was evaluated. CDV growth in VERO cells was inhibited by ribavirin, by boceprevir and by a combination of the two molecules at non-cytotoxic concentrations, as evaluated by end-point viral titration in cell monolayers and by quantification of viral RNA using quantitative RT-PCR. By end-point titration, a statistically significant reduction in CDV replication was observed only using ribavirin and boceprevir in combination. By quantitative RT-PCR, a significant reduction of viral growth was

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