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Renal azotemia and associated clinical and laboratory findings in dogs with *Babesia rossi* infection

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Highlights

- Renal azotemia was diagnosed at presentation in 14% of all dogs.
- Based on urine specific gravity, renal azotemia was an underdiagnosed event.
- Based on urine osmolality, most azotemic dogs had renal azotemia.
- Old age and hyperphosphatemia could help to identify concomitant renal azotemia.

The occurrence of acute kidney injury in canine babesiosis is not well documented. Furthermore, interpretation of urine specific gravity (USG) to assess renal concentrating ability is hampered by the frequent presence of hemoglobinuria in this disease.

This cross-sectional study aimed to test the hypothesis that renal azotemia (RA) is underdiagnosed according to current canine babesiosis literature by determining its occurrence at presentation, using urine osmolality instead of USG to measure urinary concentration. The second objective was to examine potential associations between the presence of RA and selected clinical and laboratory variables at presentation. Medical records