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## Awareness and control of canine leishmaniosis: a survey among Spanish and French veterinarians

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### Highlights

- Data from an online survey among 459 Spanish and French veterinarians were analysed
- Most veterinarians were not aware of guidelines for leishmaniosis control in Europe
- Most veterinarians do however apply interventions as mentioned in the guidelines
- Confirmed canine leishmaniosis cases are not being reported or registered

The spread of this emerging infectious disease is not being monitored or evaluated

### Abstract

Zoonotic visceral leishmaniasis (ZVL) is a parasitic disease affecting dogs and humans, which is transmitted by female sandflies. Over the last decade, disease prevalence has increased fivefold in parts of southern Europe, where an estimated 2.5 million dogs are infected. This increase is mainly due to an expansion in sandfly distribution due to climate change and to the greater numbers of dogs travelling among European countries. To combat the spread of ZVL in Europe, international guidelines have been drawn up that describe strategies to prevent, control and monitor the disease. To investigate whether these strategies are being implemented in the field, we conducted an online survey among veterinarians in Spain (endemic for ZVL) and France (south:

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