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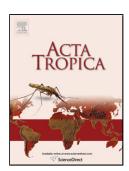
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Implications of the use of serological and molecular methods to

detect infection by Leishmania spp. in urban pet dogs

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Abstract

The aim of this study was to evaluate the relationship between naturally

occurring Leishmania spp. infections in dogs (Canis familiaris) and the practical

implications of the use of serological and molecular methods to confirm diagnoses.

The study population consisted of 96 domestic dogs in southeastern Brazil. Serum

samples were tested for the presence of anti-Leishmania immunoglobulin G (IgG)

antibodies using four commercial canine visceral leishmaniasis kits. Dogs confirmed

positive by immunofluorescence antibody test (IFAT) were culled and samples from

mesenteric lymph nodes, spleen border, bone marrow and ear skin were taken and

submitted to DNA extraction. PCR reactions were performed using primers that

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