

**SEROPREVALENCE AND EPIDEMIOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF LEPTOSPIROSIS IN DOGS  
SEEN AT THE VETERINARY HOSPITAL OF STATE UNIVERSITY OF CEARÁ**

*(SOROPREVALÊNCIA DA LEPTOSPIROSE EM CÃES ATENDIDOS NA UNIDADE HOSPITALAR  
VETERINÁRIA DA UNIVERSIDADE ESTADUAL DO CEARÁ)*

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Leptospirosis is an infectious disease with zoonotic characteristics, caused by different serovars of *Leptospira interrogans*. Dogs are considered the main source of human leptospirosis in urban areas because they live in close contact with humans and can eliminate live leptospire through the urine for several months, without having any clinical symptoms. The aim of this study was to determine the prevalence of *Leptospira* antibodies in dogs treated at the Veterinary Hospital of the State University of Ceará, from August 2011 to May 2013. We examined 37 serum samples from dogs with clinical suspicion of leptospirosis, of various ages and both sexes. The leptospirosis diagnosis was performed by the microscopic agglutination test, using a collection of 22 serovars. The seroprevalence was 32.4% (12/37) and the most prevalent serovars were *Copenhageni*, 18.9% (7/37) and *Icterohaemorrhagiae*, 13.5% (5/37), followed by *Cynopteri* and *Andamana*, with 8.1% (3/37) each. Positive reactions were also found for serovars *Djasiman*, *Australis*, *Balun* and *Patoc*, with 5.4% (2/37) each. There were also positive reactions *Grippotyphosa*, *Castellonis*, *Canicola*, *Serjoe*, *Wolffi*, *Autumnalis*, *Tarassovi*, *Shermani*, all with a prevalence of 2.7% (1/37). Antibody titers ranged from 1:100 to 1:3200. It is concluded that the examined dogs were exposed to 15 different serovars of *Leptospira* spp, among which the *Copenhageni* with 18.9% (7/37) and *Icterohaemorrhagiae* with 13.5% (5/37) are highlighted.

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