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STUDY OF THE PREVALENCE OF CANINE LEISHMANIASIS IN THE WILAYA OF SAIDA, ALGERIA

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ABSTRACT

Canine leishmaniasis is an infectious disease related to the transmission, by sandfly bite, of a flagellated protozoan: *Leishmania infantum*. This zoonosis, whose main reservoir is the dog, is constantly increasing in Algeria. The clinical expression of leishmaniasis is polymorphic and therefore difficult to diagnose. The aim of this study was to determine the prevalence of leishmaniasis in dogs in the wilaya of Saida, a city located in western Algeria. Between February 2019 and December 2020, 230 blood samples were collected from dogs of different ages, Each sample was analyzed using various laboratory techniques (direct microscopic evaluation of a fresh blood sample, FNS, MGG, Then autopsy of dead and/or euthanized dogs; A prevalence of 6.3% was found.

Key words: leishmaniasis, dogs, Saida, FNS, prevalence.