

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS

2013

**CANINE LEISHMANIASIS AND  
OTHER VECTOR-BORNE DISEASES:  
CURRENT STATE OF KNOWLEDGE**

**MARCH 8<sup>TH</sup>-10<sup>TH</sup> 2013, PISA - ITALY**



**ESTRATTI RELAZIONI  
COMUNICAZIONI BREVI • POSTERS  
ESTRATTI RELAZIONI AZIENDALI**

**CONGRESS PROCEEDINGS  
SHORT COMMUNICATIONS • POSTERS  
COMPANY RESEARCH ABSTRACTS**



spot-on per cani

# LA PROTEZIONE "TUTTA IN UNO"

## PROTEGGE DAI PARASSITI

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Imidacloprid, uno dei due principi attivi contenuti in Advantix®, ha efficacia larvicida nell'ambiente circostante il cane trattato.

### Repelle ed elimina le ZECCHE

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## RIDUCE IL RISCHIO DI MALATTIE

come la **LEISHMANIOSI** e le malattie (CVBD - Canine Vector Borne Disease) trasmesse dalle zecche come

**Ehrlichiosi, Rickettsiosi e Borrellosi** grazie all'effetto repellente.

Adatto anche per cagne in gravidanza e allattamento e per i cuccioli di almeno 7 settimane e del peso minimo indicato sulla confezione.

**Nome del medicinale veterinario:** Advantix spot-on per cani fino a 4 kg; Advantix spot-on per cani oltre 4 fino a 10 kg; Advantix spot-on per cani oltre 10 fino a 25 kg; Advantix spot-on per cani oltre 25 kg.  
**Composizione:** 1 ml di soluzione contiene: p.a.: imidacloprid 100 mg, permetrina 500 mg. **Indicazioni** per la prevenzione ed il trattamento delle infestazioni da pulci, uccide e repelle le zecche, repellente nei confronti di zanzare e flebotomi nei cani. **Controindicazioni:** non utilizzare su cuccioli di età inferiore a 7 settimane. **NON USARE SUI GATTI.** **Effetti indesiderati** in rare occasioni, le reazioni nei cani possono includere sensibilità cutanea transitoria (compresi aumentato prurito, alopecia ed entema nel sito di applicazione) o letargia. **Istruzioni per l'uso:** per uso esterno, applicare solo su cute integra. **Regime di dispensazione:** la vendita non è riservata esclusivamente alle farmacie e non è sottoposta all'obbligo di ricetta medico-veterinaria. **Prima dell'uso leggere attentamente il foglio illustrativo.**

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**NON USARE SUI GATTI.** Advantix® è estremamente tossico per i gatti. Se applicato su un gatto, o da esso ingerito accidentalmente, può essere letale.



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A CHE PUNTO SIAMO?  
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**SEROLOGICAL AND CLINICAL EVIDENCE  
OF LEISHMANIOSIS IN A DOG POPULATION LIVING  
IN A FARM IN NORTHERN SERBIA**

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Work type: **Original Research**

Topic: **Leishmaniasis**

**Purpose of the work.** *Scope of work: Determination of possible leishmaniosis in dogs which are in cohabitation with dogs diagnosed as positive, in the northern Serbia region.*

*Introduction: Zoonotic visceral leishmaniosis is a vector borne disease mostly considered as a "Mediterranean disease"<sup>1,5</sup>. Serbia is considered a country with no autochthonous cases of leishmaniosis, only imported cases are recorded in dogs and rarely in humans, mostly acquired in Greece and Montenegro during summer holidays. Phlebotomine vectors have been detected in the southern part of Serbia many years ago<sup>6</sup>, and in the northern part there is no evidence of their presence so far. Recently, the presence of vectors has been identified in Hungary, close to the border with Serbia<sup>2</sup>. Also some serologically positive cases were found in bordering countries such as Bulgaria and Croatia<sup>4,5</sup>.*

*Diagnostics of leishmaniasis is not always easy, it relies on clinical manifestation of the disease and serological findings<sup>3</sup>.*

**Materials and used methods.** *Materials and method: A small study was done on 18 dogs living in the northern part of Serbia. The first group consisted of 16 dogs. They were of different ages (1 to 15 years old), sexes (5 males) and breeds. Three of the dogs were imported from Greece, more than 10 years before (11, 14 and 15 years old) and since then, they have never left the farm. Dog number 18 was an exhibition dog and he was taken for dog shows abroad. Bitch number 17 lived with dog 18 and has never left the surrounding where she lived.*

*Blood samples were taken from dogs, to be tested for leishmaniosis by serology (ELISA and IFAT). ELISA was done with the commercial kit Euro Clone Leishmania donovani IgG canine Elisa kit. IFAT was performed by an in-house assay to re-test samples.*

**Outcomes.** Results: ELISA test results were interpreted as negative, weak positive or strongly positive, while IFAT results were interpreted at cut-off titre of 1/40-1/80 for “exposure” or “early infection”, and of =1/160 for “infection”. After interpretation, the following was gained with ELISA test from the group of 16 dogs:

- 3 dogs that were imported from Greece were positive
- 4 more dogs from that group had specific antibodies against leishmaniosis
- 1 was weak positive
- 8 dogs were found negative.

All of the “newly” positive dogs were 3 or 4 years old. One of them was from an offspring of the bitch imported from Greece, detected as positive.

In the case of dogs labelled as 17 and 18, both of them were strongly positive with ELISA test.

After the interpretation of IFAT results from the group of 16 dogs:

- 4 dogs were found as “exposed” or “early infected” (1/40-1/80) (suspicious or weak positive by ELISA)
- 2 dogs were found negative (suspicious by ELISA)
- 1 dog was found negative (negative by ELISA)

In the case of dogs 17 and 18, both of them were strongly positive by IFAT (1/1280 and 1/2560).

Clinical signs were found in three dogs that came from Greece with positive serological findings. One of them had elongated nails, skin lesions near labia and cachexia. The other two dogs had skin lesions on the back and abdomen and a very poor hair conditions. None of the dogs were ever treated and one that came from Greece died recently.

**Conclusions.** Seven of 16 dogs (43%) were found positive, weak positive or suspicious to leishmaniosis lived in the same farm and 4 of them have never left home. Two of the dogs living in cohabitation were strongly positive to leishmaniosis and one of them has never left home. There is evidence of clinical symptoms and serological findings of canine leishmaniosis in Serbia. In 4 cases of disease, the dogs from the study have been abroad at some point of their life in countries where the disease is endemic (Greece, Italy and Montenegro).

In total 5 dogs were found with positive serological findings with ELISA and IFA test for specific antibodies against *Leishmania*, that have never left their homes and one of them even had clinical symptoms that could refer to leishmaniosis.

It is concluded that imported leishmaniosis exists in Serbia, but there are also cases of disease in dogs that did not leave the country.

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