



# Leptospira Diagnostics in Animals

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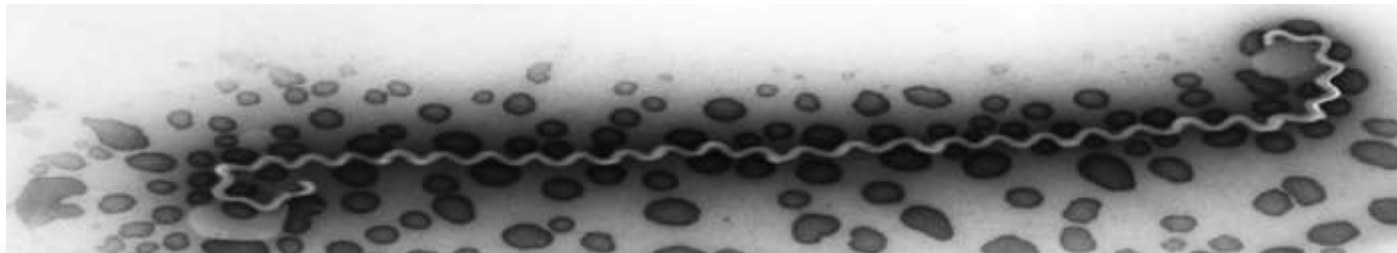
**1<sup>st</sup> International Workshop for Leptospirosis Translational Research Based on Country Needs  
&**

**5<sup>th</sup> Global Leptospirosis Environmental Action Network (GLEAN) Meeting**

*10-12 November 2015*

*Rio de Janeiro, Brazil*

*Oswaldo Cruz Institute/FIOCRUZ*







## Two island country

Located in the Leeward island chain in the Lesser Antilles and an island in West Indies

Land area -65 sq miles

Population-~45,000.

Smallest independent country in the western hemisphere

Member of Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and British Commonwealth





- Moved from sugar cane-based economy to tourism
- Ranked by World Bank as a high income country
- Volcanic island
- Two Large peaks with tropical rainforest









ROSS UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

# RUSVM

Founded 1982

- Graduated > 3500 veterinarians
- AVMA Accredited since 2012
- Seven semester program of integrated pre-clinical and clinical studies
- Affiliated with more than 20 AVMA accredited schools of veterinary medicine to enable final year of clinical training
- Postgraduate research program instituted in 2014



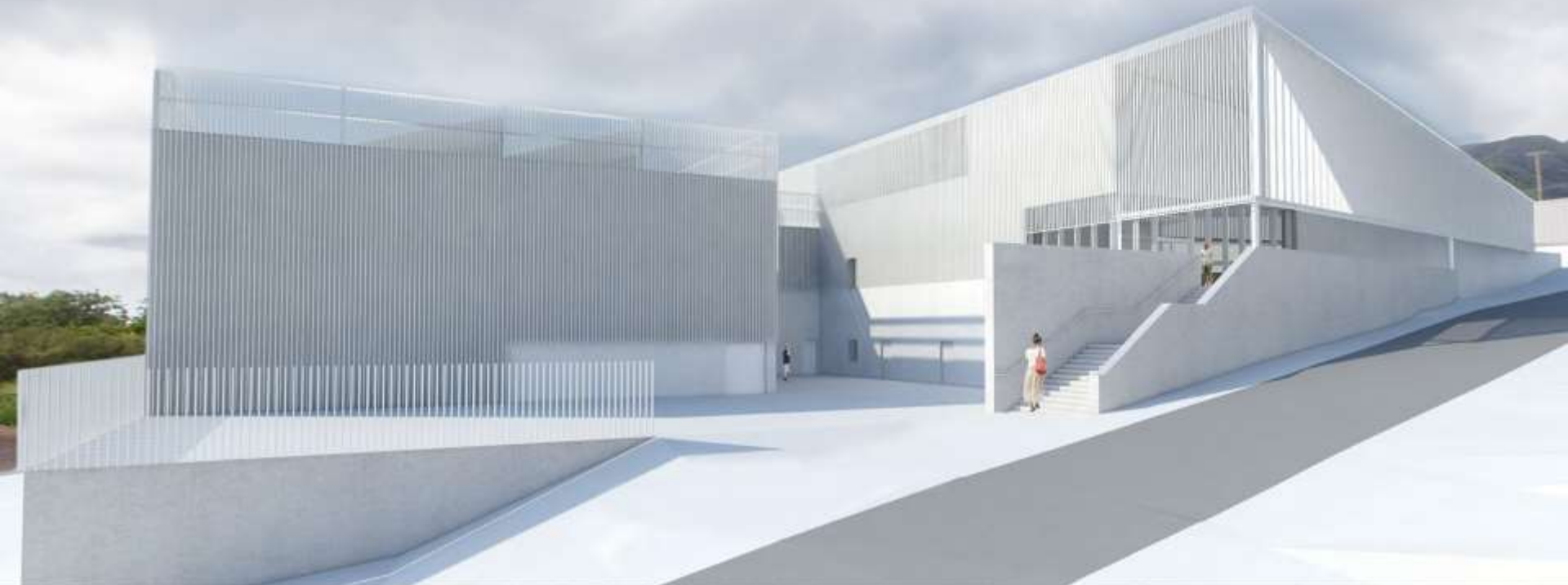
## Caribbean Research Network for Emerging and Neglected Diseases

- Fill gaps in knowledge regarding burden and transmission in the Caribbean Basin
- Develop capacity of a regional center for coordinating research efforts
- Support PAHO, CARPHA and other regional efforts to combat END





## RUSVM's New Research and Pathology Building expected to be completed by 2016







# Leptospirosis in animals



file1 leptu DF.mpg



# Pathogenesis

Penetrates epithelial barriers (incubation 4-20 days)  
Bacteremia (for up to 7 days)  
Enter kidney, (liver, spleen, CNS, genital tract)  
Antibodies develop (extent and duration varies)

**Maintenance hosts**

**Privileged sites**  
(kidneys or  
reproductive tract?)

**Long term shedding**

**Incidental hosts**

**Recovery with short  
term shedding in  
urine**

**Severe Disease**



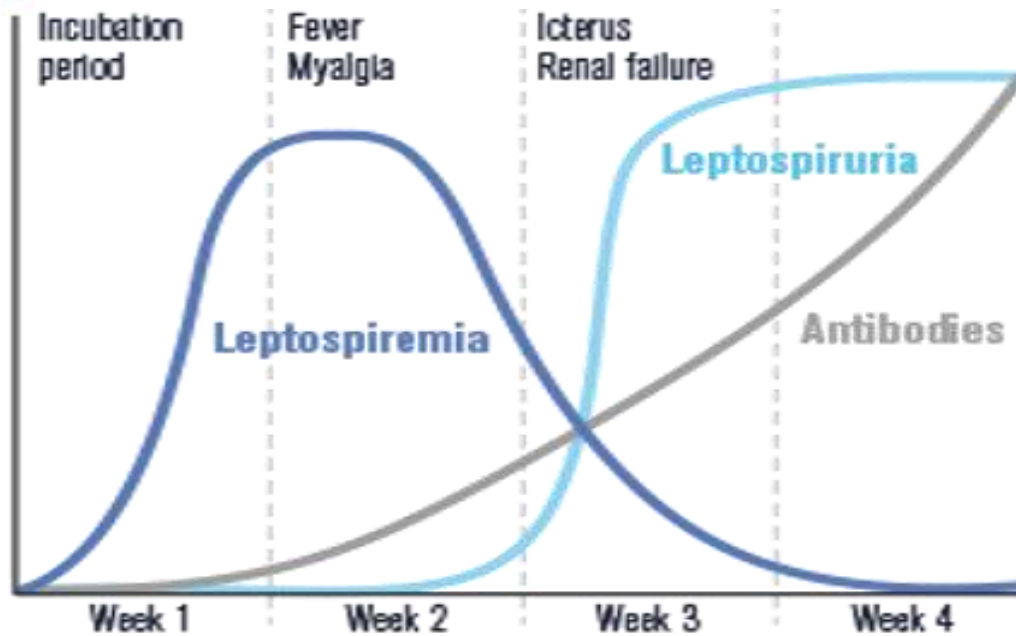
# Leptospirosis-Dogs

Mild or no signs of disease, to severe illness or death.

(polyuria, polydipsia, dehydration, vomiting, diarrhea, inappetence, lethargy, or abdominal pain)

Signs of **Renal failure and** hepatic disease including icterus. Bleeding abnormalities and disseminated intravascular coagulation(DIC)





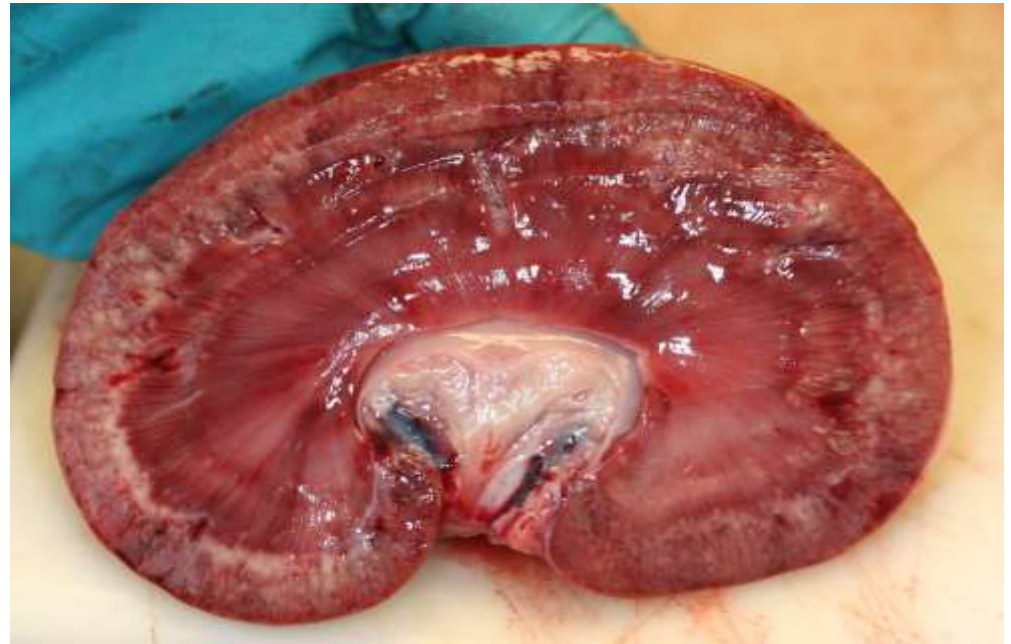
PCR of blood  
PCR of urine  
MAT

Mortality 11-27%

Chronic renal failure  
33% - 40% of  
surviving dogs



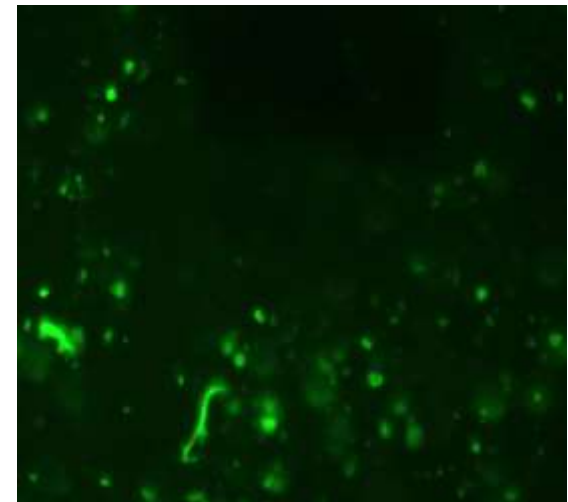
Dogs surviving acute renal tubulointerstitial injury may have residual chronic kidney injury that progresses over months to years





## Ante-mortem Diagnostic Tests

- FA and PCR on urine and blood
- Microscopic agglutination Test on 6 serovars







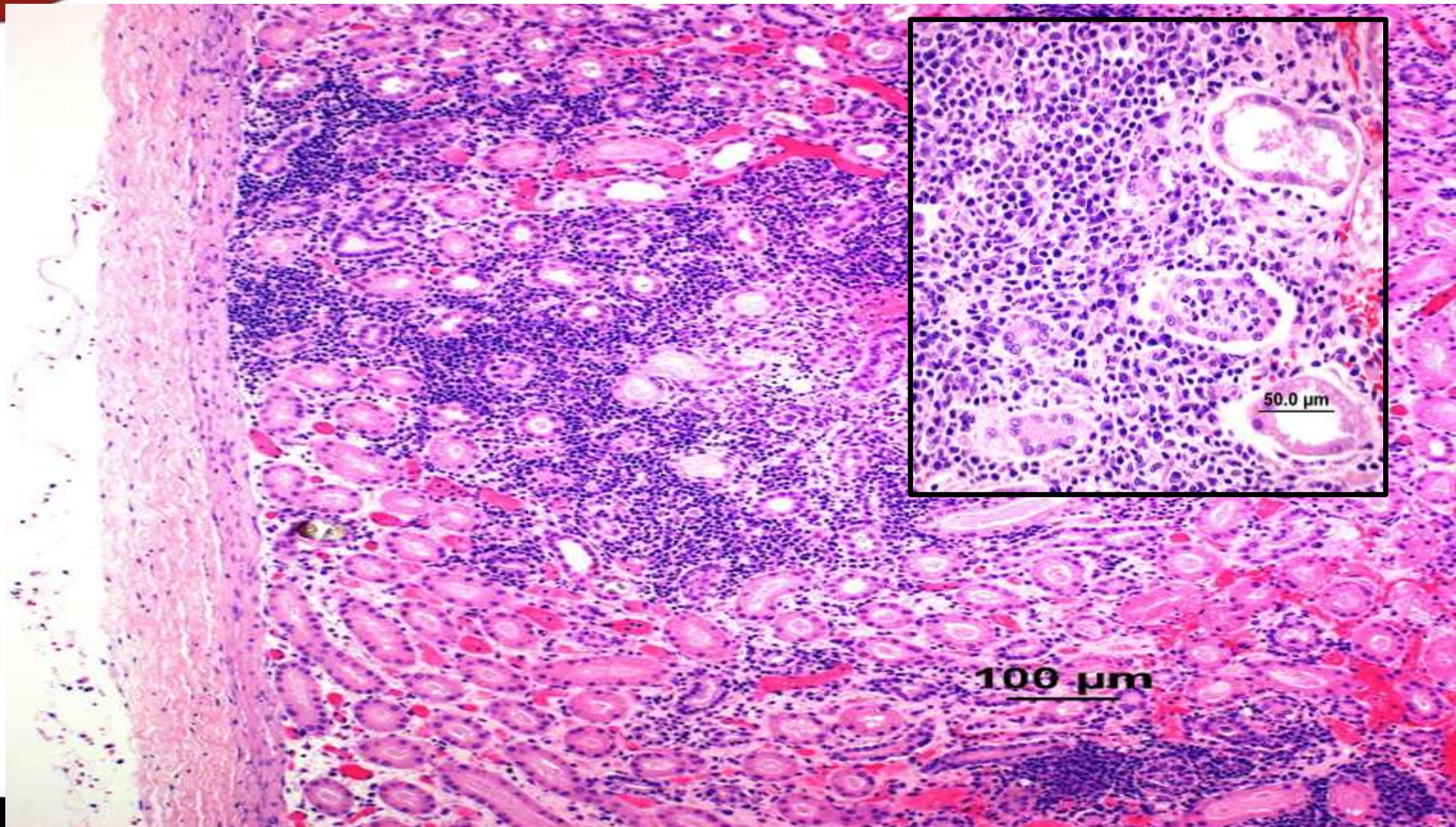
- Post-mortem Diagnosis
- Histopathology and confirmation by PCR and Immunohistochemistry



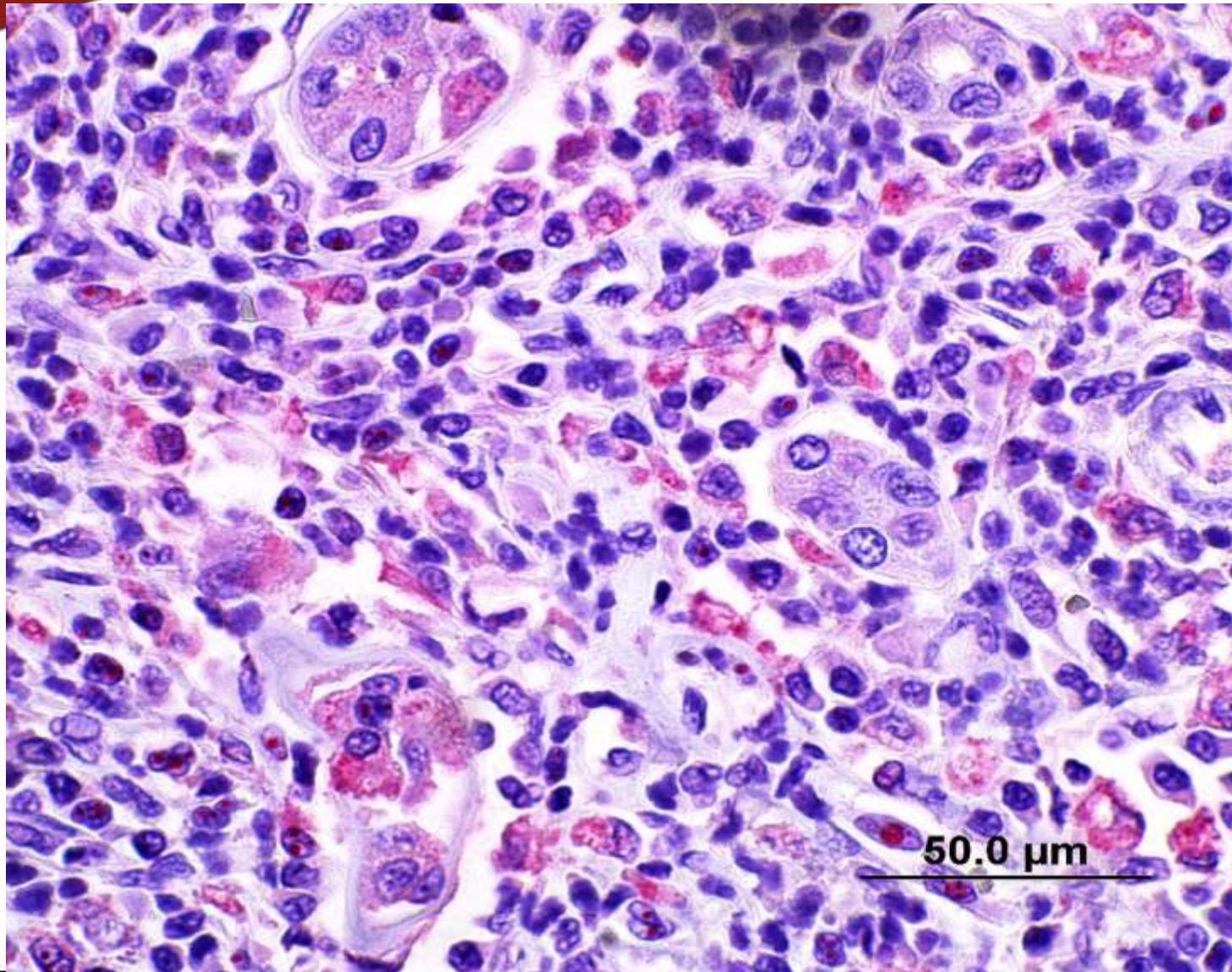




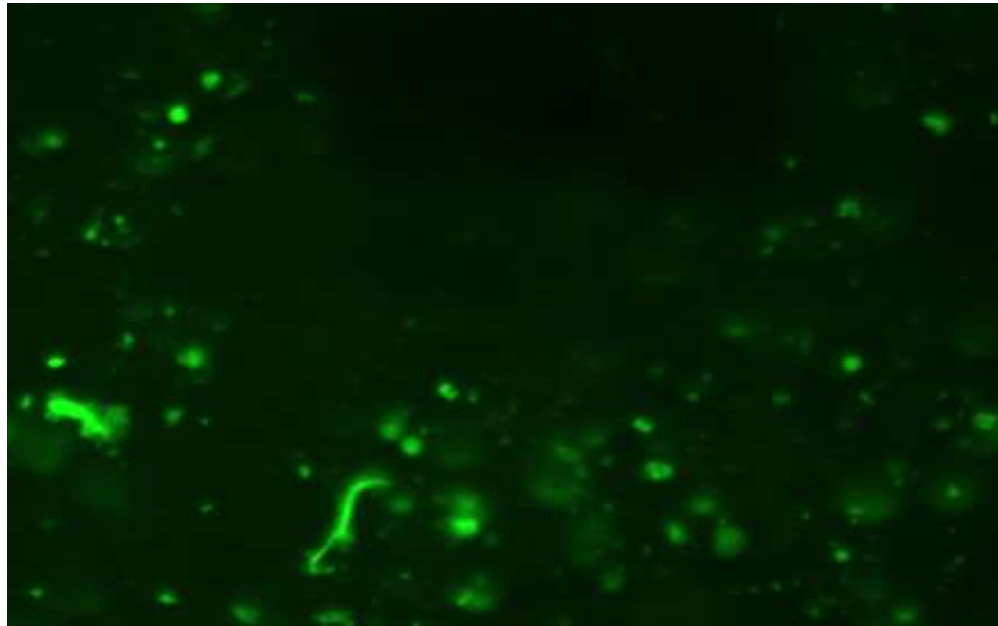
# Tubulointerstitial Nephritis





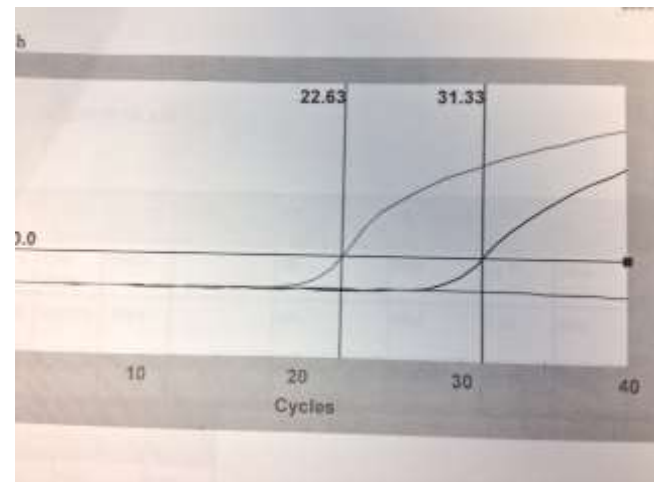






Site Legend

| Site ID | Sample ID     | Cy3 Ct | Protocol  |
|---------|---------------|--------|-----------|
| A4      | 3326-lepto/rt | 31.33  | LeptoRTSR |
| A5      | N-lepto/rt    | 0.00   | LeptoRTSR |
| A6      | P-lepto/rt    | 22.63  | LeptoRTSR |





# Microscopic agglutination test; paired serum titers, Cross reactivity and Paradoxical reactions

|         | Pomona | Hardjo | Grippotyphosa | Icterohemorrhagiae | Canicola | Bratislava | Autumnalis |
|---------|--------|--------|---------------|--------------------|----------|------------|------------|
| Serum 1 | 400    | N      | 3200          | N                  | 200      | 200        | 1600       |
| Serum 2 | 800    | N      | 6400          | 100                | 200      | 800        | 6400       |

**SEROLOGY**

**LEPTOSPIRA**

**LEPTOSPIRA ANTIBODY MAT**

| Animal ID | POMO   | HARD   | GRIP   | ICTE  | CANI   | BRAT   | AUTU   |
|-----------|--------|--------|--------|-------|--------|--------|--------|
| GUNTHER   | 1:6400 | NEGATI | 1:6400 | 1:400 | NEGATI | 1:6400 | 1:6400 |



# Ideal samples/tests for ante-mortem diagnosis to maximise the diagnostic sensitivity

Blood for PCR/FA  
Urine for PCR/FA  
Serum for MAT

Based on the Stage of Presentation

Whenever possible, serum, Blood, and urine should be sent to the lab for PCR, FA and MAT





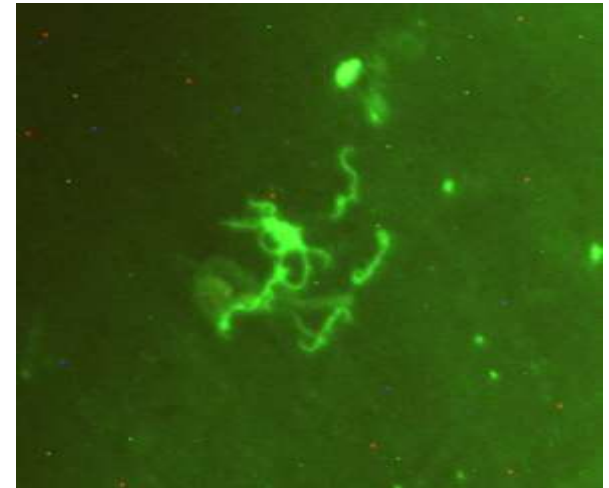
# Leptospirosis in cattle and ruminants

Incidental infections with serovar Pomona results in severe acute disease

*Leptospira borgpetersennii* serovar Hardjo is host adapted in cattle and may result in reproductive failure due to early embryonic death and repeat breeding



# Diagnosis in cattle



- Urine FA and PCR
- Collect mid stream urine preferably after administration of a diuretic such as Lasix
- Overnight shipping of urine under refrigeration conditions is recommended
- Serum for MAT testing
- Usually chronically infected cows have low antibody titers



# Horses

- Serovars pomona and grippotyphosa Bratislava(?) are the most common causes of equine leptospirosis.
- Clinical leptospirosis in horses is most commonly associated with abortions, systemic illness in foals
- severe forms including hemolysis and vasculitis with petechial hemorrhages hemoglobinuria, anemia, icterus.
- Renal failure and hepatopathy may also occur.
- The role in Equine Recurrent Uveitis??
- The first USDA-approved equine-specific vaccine to prevent leptospirosis in horses: Zoetis - Lepto EQ Innovator

Diagnosis: by MAT/FA/PCR

## Other species



Pigs(Serovars Pomona and Bratislava)

Reproductive failure as evidenced by infertility and sporadic abortion

Serovar Pomona is endemic in California sea lions

Cats are considered resistant to clinical Leptospirosis

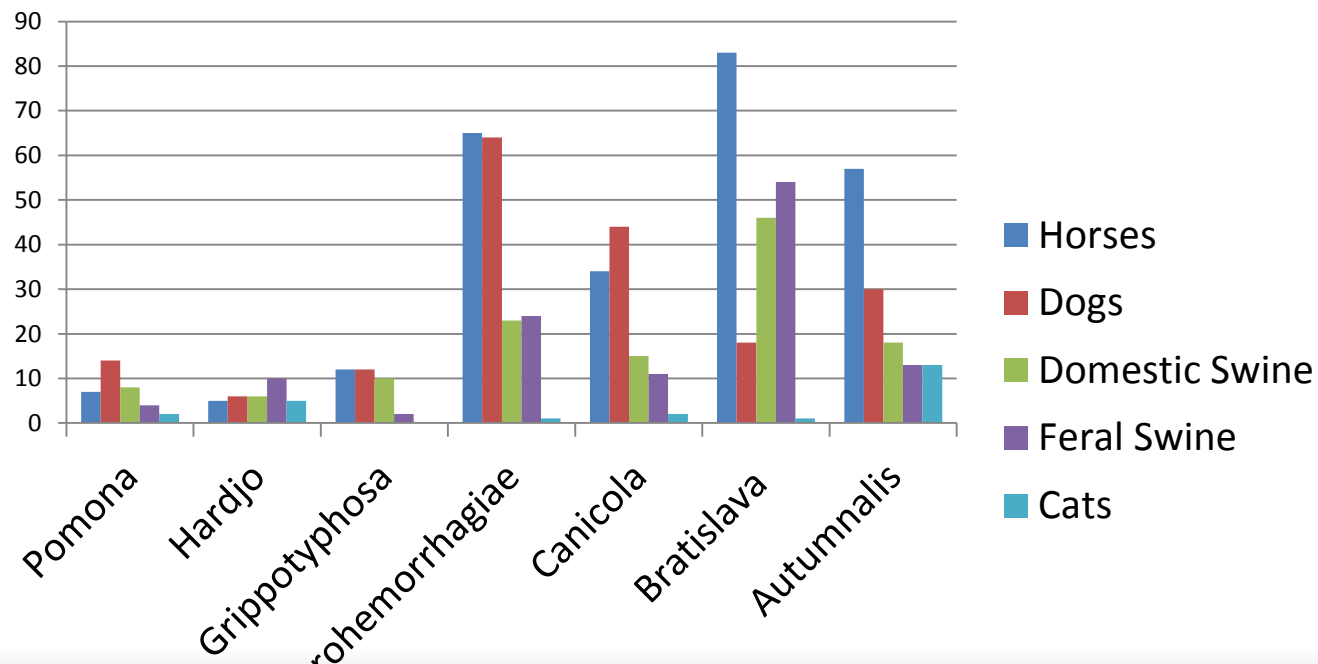
Many wild animal species are infected, however, burden of disease is not documented





# Overall Seroprevalence To Serovars

|                | Total tested | Positive | %positive |
|----------------|--------------|----------|-----------|
| Horses         | 179          | 120      | 67%       |
| Canine         | 287          | 93       | 32.40%    |
| Domestic swine | 160          | 59       | 36.80%    |
| Feral Swine    | 169          | 79       | 46.70%    |
| Cats           | 116          | 18       | 16%       |





# Dairy cattle surveillance Summary

7/10 farms(70%) had at least one FA positive cow

All herds had at least one cow with MAT titer >100 for one or more serovars

There is a significant association with infertility and Leptospira positivity

No clear significant association with vaccination and positivity

Testing methods (MAT) should be revisited and improved

# Leptospira prevalence in Beef Herds

**Table 1. Summary of Leptospira testing results for 37 bovine kidney samples**

| Test    | Positive   | Negative   | Not Evaluated | Total     |
|---------|------------|------------|---------------|-----------|
| DFM     | 23 (62.2%) | 11 (29.7%) | 3 (8.1%)      | 37 (100%) |
| DFA     | 30 (81.1%) | 5 (13.5%)  | 2 (5.4%)      | 37 (100%) |
| PCR     | 11 (29.7%) | 26 (70.3%) | 0 (0.0%)      | 37 (100%) |
| Culture | 3 (8.1%)   | 34 (91.9%) | 0 (0.0%)      | 37 (100%) |



Read mapping and variant calling

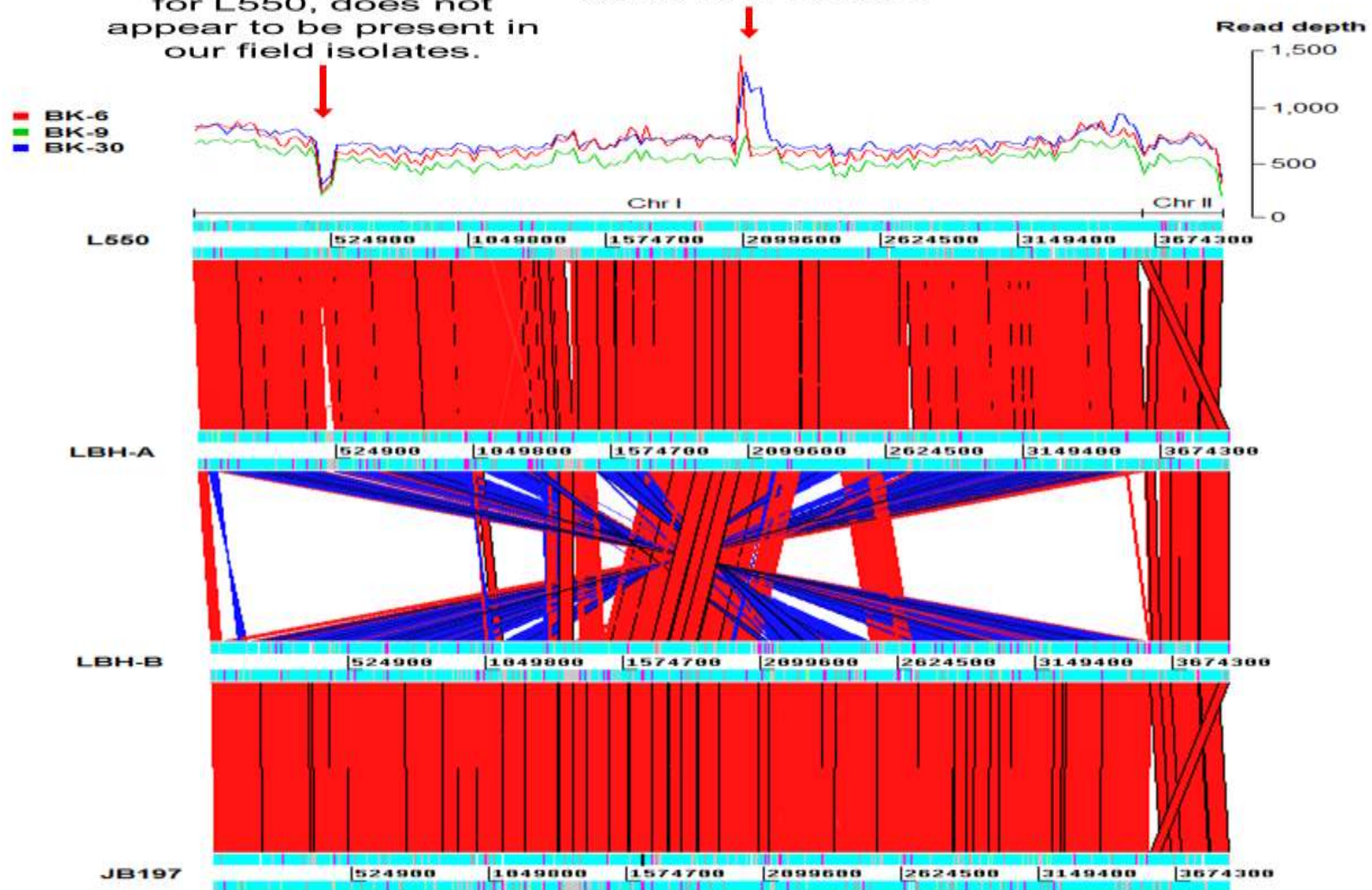
| Label | Total reads | Reference | Reads mapped | Reads unmapped | Total variants | SNP    | INS | DEL |
|-------|-------------|-----------|--------------|----------------|----------------|--------|-----|-----|
| BK-6  | 9,467,714   | L550      | 99.8%        | 0.2%           | 52             | 51     | 0   | 1   |
| BK-9  | 7,716,262   | L550      | 99.8%        | 0.2%           | 45             | 42     | 0   | 3   |
| BK-30 | 9,903,708   | L550      | 99.8%        | 0.2%           | 42             | 39     | 0   | 3   |
| LBH-A | 8,224,194   | L550      | 99.9%        | 0.1%           | 43             | 40     | 0   | 3   |
| LBH-B | 7,467,366   | JB197     | 99.6%        | 0.4%           | 3,848          | 3,777  | 58  | 13  |
| LIH   | 7,929,346   | Lai       | 97.4%        | 2.6%           | 28,828         | 28,561 | 192 | 75  |
|       |             | Cop       | 97.5%        | 2.5%           | 28,402         | 28,223 | 114 | 65  |



## *L. borgpetersenii* serovar Hardjo (Hardjobovis)

Duplication of the cluster of ribosomal protein genes, previously reported for L550, does not appear to be present in our field isolates.

A region of variable length seems to be distinctly amplified in some field isolates



Although L550 and LB197 genomes were used as template for contiguation of the LBH-A and LBH-B genomes, fragments that could be assembled *de novo* were very similar in structure to those of the corresponding reference genomes. 29

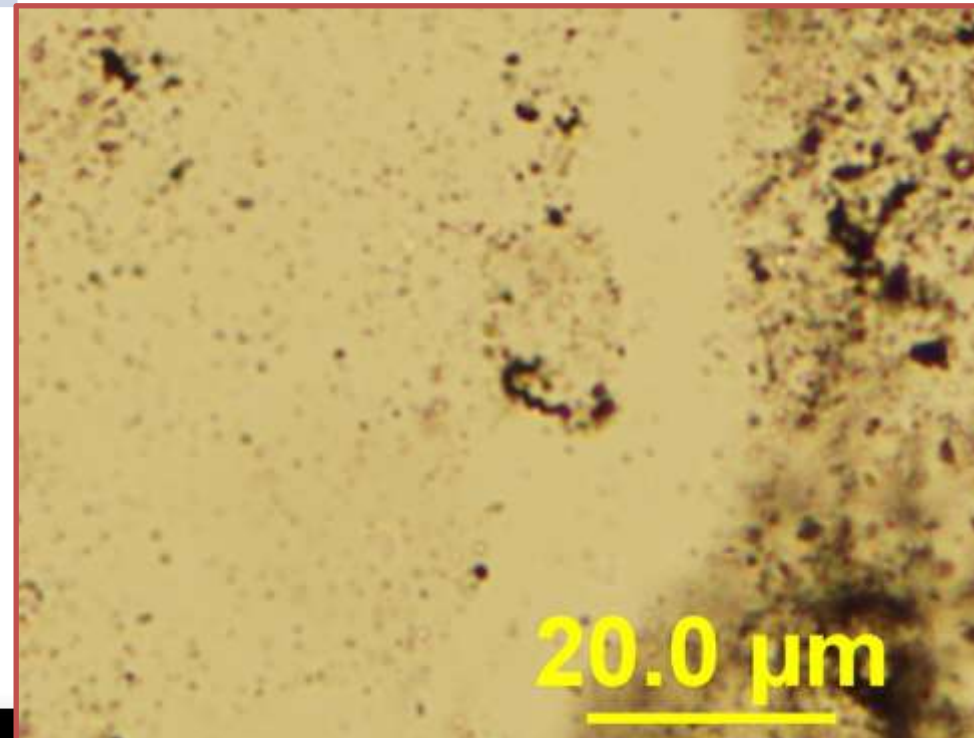


**Actionable Diagnosis of Neuroleptospirosis by  
Next-Generation Sequencing. N Engl J Med  
2014; 370:2408-2417 June 19, 2014 DOI:  
10.1056/NEJMoa1401268**



# Wild animals

| Animal type | Tested | PCR Positive |
|-------------|--------|--------------|
| Bobcats     | 5      | 3            |
| Coyotes     | 2      | 1            |
| Opossums    | 5      | 2            |







# Monkeys in St Kitts

Green vervet monkeys  
(*Cercopithecus aethiops sabaeus*)



| Serovar    | No. of Positive Samples | Sero-Prevalence (%) | Approx. 95% Confidence Interval (CI) (%) | No. of Positive Samples Wild | Sero-Prevalence (%) | CI (%)    | No. Of Positive Samples Captive | Sero-Prevalence | CI (%)    | P Value (Fisher) |
|------------|-------------------------|---------------------|--|------------------------------|---------------------|-----------|---------------------------------|-----------------|-----------|------------------|
| Bratislava | 26                      | 16.0                | 10.4-21.7                                | 22                           | 27.1                | 17.5-36.8 | 4                               | 4.9             | 0.2-9.7   | 0.0002           |
| Autumnalis | 6                       | 3.7                 | 0.8-6.6                                  | 3                            | 3.7                 | 0-7.8     | 3                               | 3.7             | 0-7.8     | 1                |
| Ballum     | 30                      | 18.5                | 12.5-24.5                                | 13                           | 16                  | 8.1-24    | 17                              | 21              | 12.1-29.9 | 0.5              |
| Bataviae   | 38                      | 23.5                | 16.9-30                                  | 1                            | 1.2                 | 0-3.6     | 37                              | 45.7            | 34.8-56.5 | <0.00001         |
| Canicola   | 7                       | 4.3                 | 1.2-7.8                                  | 4                            | 4.9                 | 0.2-9.7   | 3                               | 3.7             | 0-7.8     | 1                |
| Cynopteri  | 2                       | 1.2                 | 0-2.9                                    | 2                            | 2.5                 | 0-5.8     | 0                               |                 |           | 0.5              |
| Djasiman   | 2                       | 1.2                 | 0-2.9                                    | 2                            | 2.5                 | 0-5.8     | 0                               |                 |           | 0.5              |
| Borincana  | 1                       | 0.6                 | 0-1.8                                    | 1                            | 1.2                 | 0-3.6     | 0                               |                 |           | 1                |
| Ictero     | 6                       | 3.7                 | 0.8-6.6                                  | 2                            | 2.5                 | 0-5.8     | 4                               | 4.9             | 0.2-9.7   | 0.7              |
| Mankarso   | 12                      | 7.4                 | 3.4-11.4                                 | 6                            | 7.4                 | 1.7-13.1  | 6                               | 7.4             | 1.7-13.1  | 1                |
| Pomona     | 1                       | 0.6                 | 0-1.8                                    | 0                            |                     |           | 1                               | 1.2             | 0-3.6     | 1                |
| Alexi      | 3                       | 1.9                 | 0-3.9                                    | 0                            |                     |           | 3                               | 3.7             | 0-7.8     | 0.2              |
| Tarassovi  | 5                       | 3.1                 | 0.4-6.8                                  | 0                            |                     |           | 5                               | 6.1             | 0.9-11.4  | 0.0633           |

| Titers                                    | 100      | 200      | 400      | 800     | 1600    | 3 200   |
|---|----------|----------|----------|---------|---------|---------|
| Bratislava(Australis)                     | 23(88%)  | 2(7.6%)  | 1(3.84%) |         |         |         |
| Autumnalis(autumnalis)                    | 6        |          |          |         |         |         |
| Ballum (Ballum)                           | 17 (57%) | 7 (23%)  | 1(3.3%)  | 3(10%)  | 2(6.6%) |         |
| Bataviae (Bataviae)                       | 17 (45%) | 11 (29%) | 7 (38%)  | 1(2.6%) | 1(2.6%) | 1(2.6%) |
| Canicola (canicola)                       | 7        |          |          |         |         |         |
| Cynopteri (cynopteri)                     | 2        |          |          |         |         |         |
| Djasiman (Djasimen)                       | 2        |          |          |         |         |         |
| Borincana (Hebdomadis)                    | 1        |          |          |         |         |         |
| Icterohemorrhagiae<br>(Icterohemorrhagiae | 3 (50%)  | 2(33%)   |          | 1(16%)  |         |         |
| Icterohemorrhagiae Mankarso               | 3 (25%)  | 4 (33%)  | 1(8.3%)  | 3 (25%) | 1(8.3%) |         |
| Pomona (Pomona)                           | 1        |          |          |         |         |         |
| Alexi (pyrogenes)                         | 3        |          |          |         |         |         |
| Tarassovi (Tarassovi)                     | 4 (80%)  |          | 1(20%)   |         |         | 34      |



# Seroprevalence in Monkeys

Overall seroprevalence of 49.4%

Captive monkeys – 60.5%

Wild monkeys – 38.3%

| Serovar    | Seropvalence Wild Monkey | Seropvalence Captive Monkey |
|------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Ballum     | 17%                      | 21%                         |
| Bataviae   | 1.2%                     | 45.7%                       |
| Bratislava | 27.2%                    | 4.9%                        |





Dr. Cruz



Dr. Cruz

# Seroprevalence in Mongoose

Overall seroprevalence 2.4%

| Serovar                     | Seroprevalence |
|-----------------------------|----------------|
| Bratislava                  | 1.2% (1/83)    |
| Icterohemorrhagiae/Mankarso | 1.2% (1/83)    |



# THANK YOU

