

Venereal Diseases of Small Animals

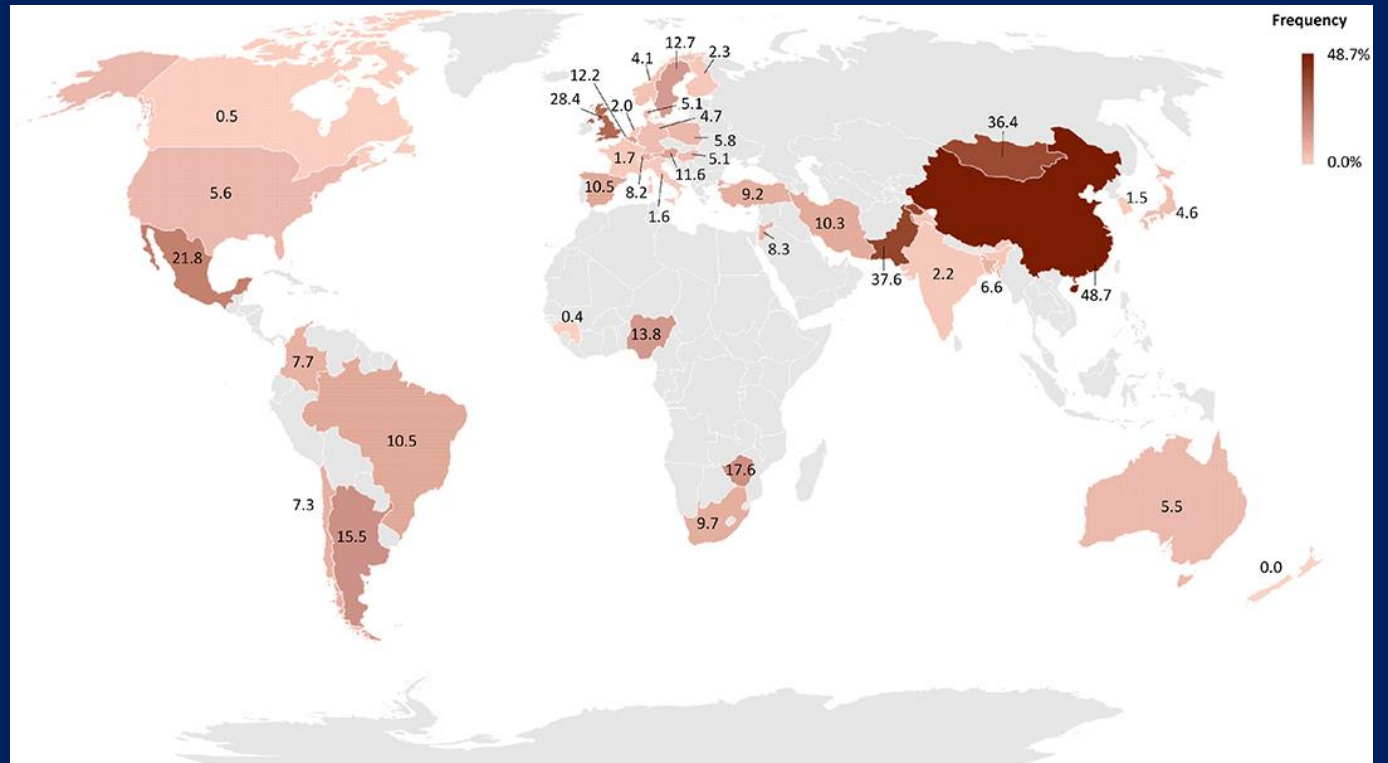
Dr. R. Jordan Farrell

What is a venereal disease?

- Any condition that has the potential to be transmitted through sexual contact
- Can consist of bacteria, viruses and parasites
- 3 primary diseases in dogs
- No true venereal diseases of cats

Brucella Canis

- Zoonotic disease of dogs
- Potentially transmitted through semen, urine, and saliva
- Signalment and History
 - Breeding or stray dogs
 - Middle aged males



Brucella Canis

- Clinical Signs
 - Late term abortions
 - Orchitis
 - Difficulty moving, pain and stiffness of the back



Brucella Canis

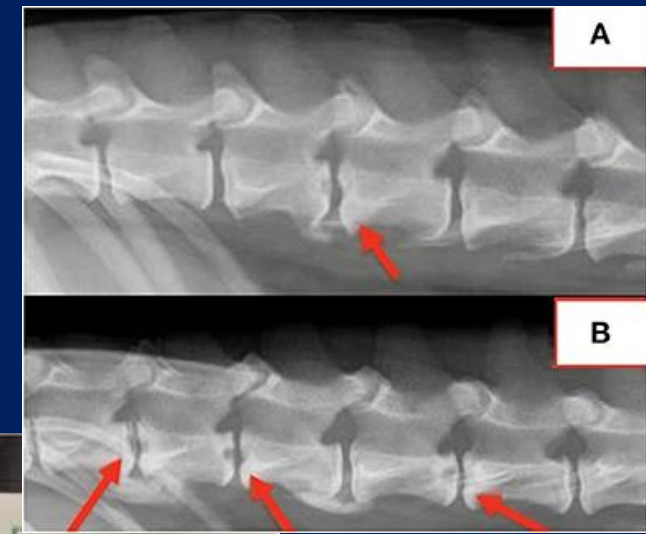
- Diagnostics

- Radiographs

- Discospondylitis of primary lumbar vertebrae

- Rapid Slide agglutination test (RSAT)

- Screening test intended for same day results
 - Very sensitive to infections >4 weeks
 - Negative = negative
 - Positive = send of confirmatory Agar Gel Immunodiffusion (AGID) test



Brucella Canis

- Treatment
 - Mostly unrewarding
 - Euthanasia is often recommended
 - Neuter males diagnosed
 - Tetracycline can help to decrease shedding
 - Relapse common in most cases



Herpes Virus

- Cause of “Fading Puppy Syndrome” in neonates
- Adult dogs are typically NOT clinically affected
- Transmitted to puppies in utero or at parturition
- Virus replication occurs below normal body temperature
- Most dogs have a + titer

- Signalment and History
 - First litter dogs
 - New introduction to breeding colony

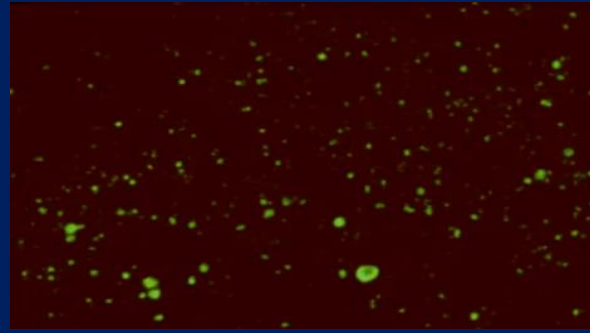
Herpes Virus

- Clinical Signs

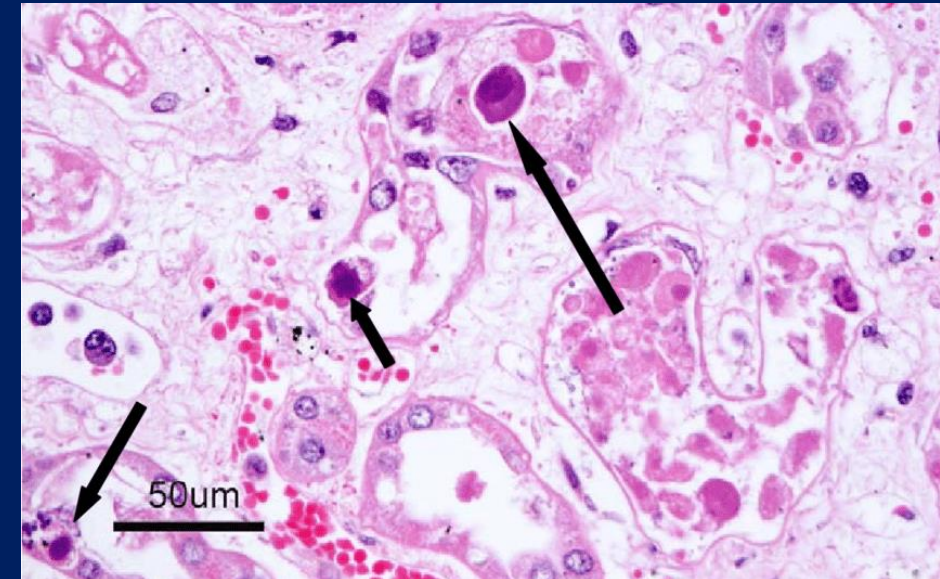
- Rapid and *widespread* loss in a breeding kennel
 - Minor disease in serologically naïve dam
 - **Major disease and death** in fetuses/neonates



Herpes Virus



- Diagnostics
 - Typical recommendation- Brucella RSAT test initially
 - Direct fluorescent antibody (dFA) testing for CaHV-1 antigen
 - Titer testing will reveal a low or negative titer to CaHV-1
 - Female dogs with a low or negative titer
 - Future litters 'at risk' for contracting CaHV-1
- Necropsy
 - Petechial hemorrhages on internal organs
 - Intranuclear inclusion bodies on histopath



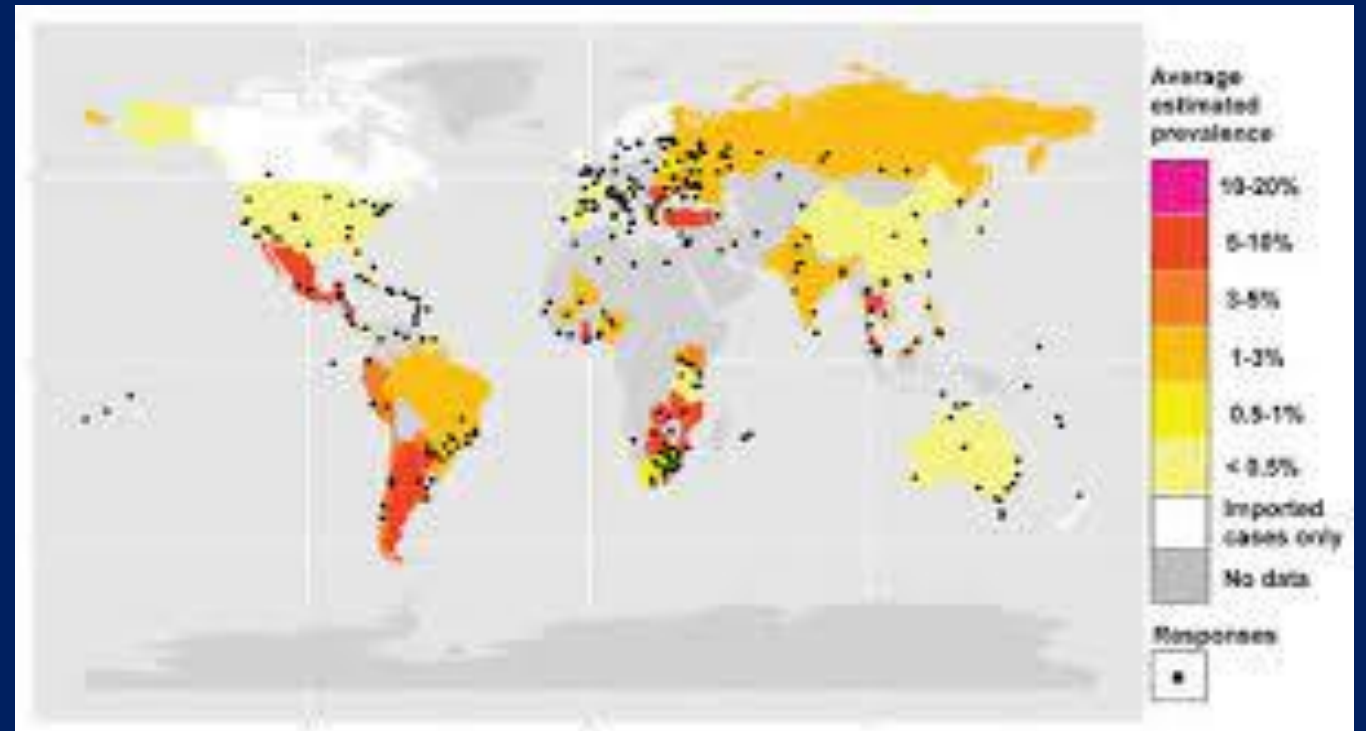
Herpes Virus

- Treatment
 - Neonatal Area
 - Increase ambient temperature above 98F
 - Implement strict biosecurity
 - Pregnant dams
 - Oral acyclovir (20mg/kg) Q6hrs until 3 weeks post-whelp
 - Puppies
 - Oral acyclovir (15mg/kg) Q6hrs until 3 weeks post-whelp
 - Impossible to eradicate from a kennel/population



Transmissible Venereal Tumor(TVT)

- One of two transmissible cancers of dogs
- Worldwide most prevalent in subtropical areas
- Spread via coitus
- Signalment and History
 - Free roaming intact dogs
 - Recently escaped dogs



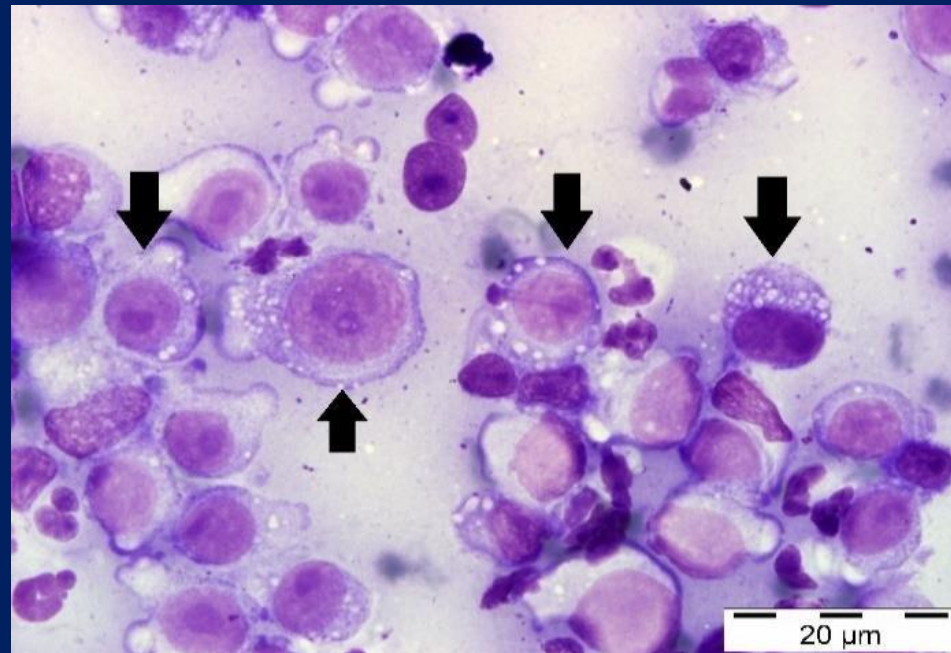
TVT

- Clinical Signs
 - Females
 - Red, verrucous, friable, hemorrhagic mass
 - Males
 - Bloody preputial discharge with excoriation
 - Mass is typically at the tip of the penis but can be at the base
- Can implant on any mucous membrane
 - Genitalia is most common followed by nasal and conjunctiva



TVT

- Diagnostics
 - Cytology
 - Impression smears or fine needle aspirates
 - round cells with vacuolated cytoplasm



TVT

- Treatment
 - Can spontaneously regress in 3-6 months
 - Vincristine
 - 90 to 95% cure rate
 - Metastatic in 5-17% of cases

