Poster presentations

Characterisation of canine parvovirus (CPV-2) circulating in the UK

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OBJECTIVES
CPV-2 is a major pathogen of dogs, causing severe haemorrhagic diarrhoea and often death in young puppies. Despite widespread vaccination, the disease continues to occur regularly in small animal practice. Since CPV-2 first emerged in the late 1970s, it has evolved into 3 main antigenic subtypes: 2a, 2b and 2c, completely replacing the original type 2. This study determined which strains of CPV are currently circulating in a sample of dogs living throughout the UK.

METHODS
Thirty-four faecal samples were collected from dogs in the UK, which tested positive for parvovirus by SNAP test or diagnostic polymerase chain reaction (PCR). DNA was extracted from the samples, and approximately 400bp of the capsid protein VP2 was amplified by PCR and sequenced to determine the strain of CPV present.

RESULTS
The predominant strain found was CPV-2b (20/26). A single case of CPV-2c was found and 5/26 were CPV-2a. The last study to characterise CPV in the UK was published in 2008, and also found type 2b as the most common variant. Results from the current study suggest that CPV-2b is still the predominant type, and has not been overtaken by the newer type 2c.

STATEMENT
The current study suggests that CPV-2 in the UK has undergone relatively little change in the last decade. However, CPV continues to evolve and so continued surveillance of strains present in a region is necessary to determine current vaccination efficacy and detect emergence of new antigenic variants; such variants could be more pathogenic or resistant to current vaccines.

Clinical presentation of canine distemper virus infection in dogs in Brazil

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OBJECTIVES
Canine distemper virus (CDV) infection remains a prevalent disease of the dog in many countries. The aim of this study was to review retrospectively the signalment and clinical presentation of dogs with CDV infection presenting to a veterinary teaching hospital in Brazil.

METHODS
The medical records of 6,700 dogs (January 2014 to December 2015) were evaluated and 74 (1.1%) cases of CDV infection were diagnosed.