

Diagnostic path for *Borrelia burgdorferi* s.l. infections in dogs



CLINICAL FINDINGS

Clinical history

- Fever
- Inappetence
- Lethargy
- Recurrent lameness
- History of tick infestation (*Ixodes* spp.)

Major clinical signs

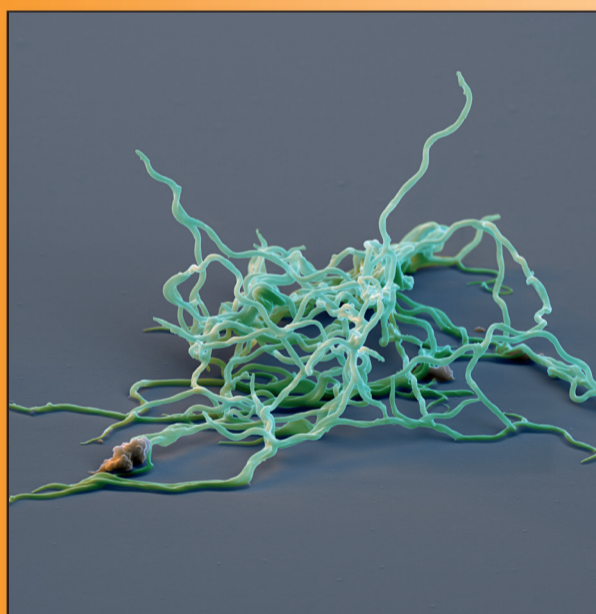
- Most dogs do not develop clinical signs
- Clinical signs may include:
 - Fever
 - Lameness
 - Lymphadenomegaly
 - Rarely kidney problems

Key clinical pathological findings

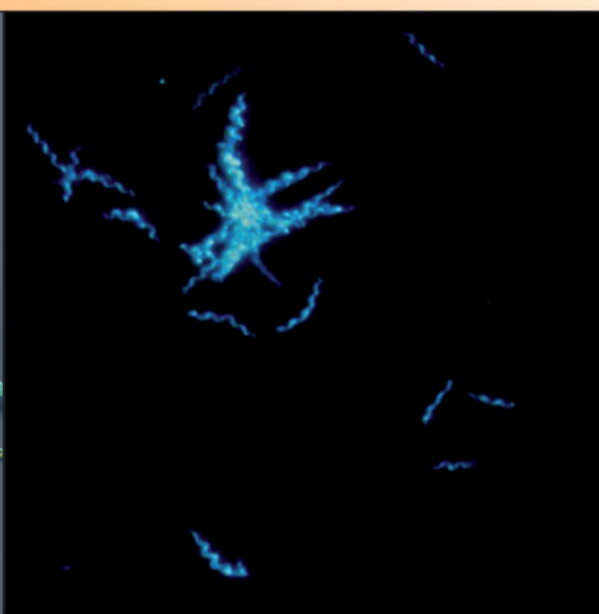
Hematology	Low	Normal	High
Neutrophils			
Eosinophils			
Urea			*
Creatinin			*
Albumin			
Biochemistry	Low	Normal	High
Proteins			
Urine	Low	Normal	High
Albumin			*
Protein			*
Erythrocytes			*
Protein/Creatinin			*

* High in case of kidney problems

FURTHER DIAGNOSTIC TESTS



SEM photo



Dark field microscopy

Serology

- ELISA/rapid test is the diagnostic test of choice
- Western blot is used as a secondary confirmatory test

PCR and culture

- Available, but not confirmatory if negative since *B. burgdorferi* is generally not found in blood and infrequently in tissue samples

CAUTION: Always consider the possibility of co-infection after the diagnosis of one vector-borne disease has been made.

THERAPEUTIC CONSIDERATIONS

Doxycycline, amoxicillin

PREVENTATIVE MEASURES

Compliant year-round tick control with repellent remedy, vaccination in endemic regions