

# Diagnostic path for *Hepatozoon canis* infections in dogs



## CLINICAL FINDINGS

### Clinical history

- Tick infestation?
- Poor ectoparasiticide compliance?
- Travel to endemic area?
- Loss of appetite?
- Weight loss?

### Major clinical signs

- Lethargy
- Weakness
- **Anemia** (pale mucous membranes)
- Fever
- Lymph node enlargement
- Dehydration

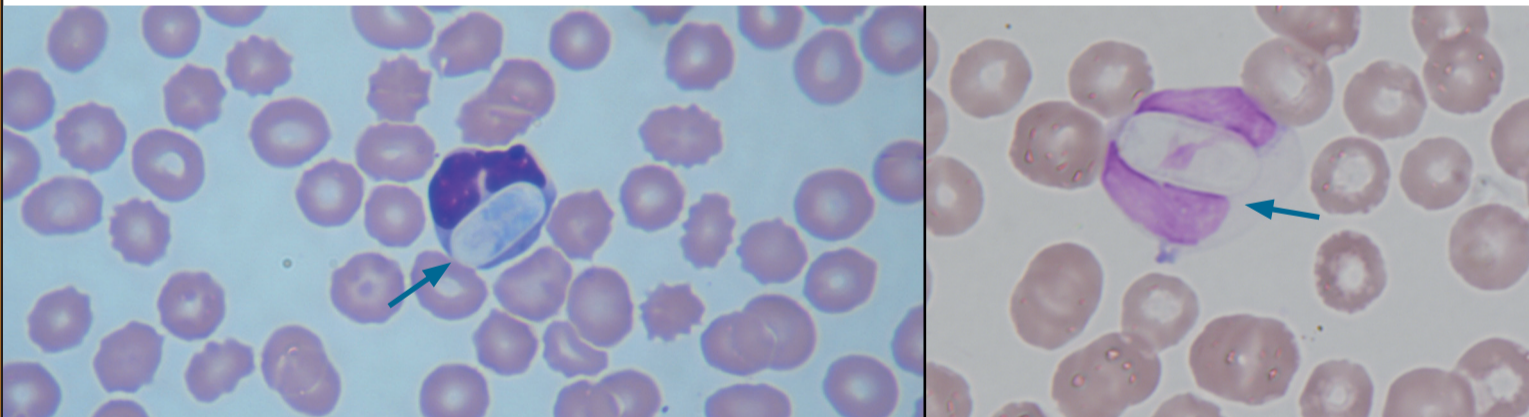
### Key clinical pathological findings

Hematology	Low	Normal	High
Platelets	Low		
WBC			High
Neutrophils			High
Biochemistry	Low	Normal	High
BUN			High
SGPT (ALT)			High
Alk Phos			High
Albumin	Low		
Globulins			High
Urine	Low	Normal	High
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**CAUTION:** Clinical signs and clinical pathological findings are non-specific, thus consider other chronic infectious/inflammatory and neoplastic diseases!

## FURTHER DIAGNOSTIC TESTS

### Blood smear microscopy



Pathogen might be found in either acute or chronic phase

### Serology

Not readily available

### PCR

Available and confirmatory

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

## THERAPEUTIC CONSIDERATIONS

- Imidocarb dipropionate

## PREVENTATIVE MEASURES

- Compliant year-round tick control with repellent remedy