



PREVALENCE OF CANINE HEARTWORM ANTIGENEMIA IN DOGS FROM PENINSULAR MALAYSIA

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ABSTRACT

This study was conducted to determine the prevalence of *Dirofilaria immitis* infection and to investigate the risk factors related to heartworm disease in dogs from Peninsular Malaysia. Blood samples were collected from 336 dogs from March 2008 to June 2008, and were examined by antigen test kit. Of the 336 samples, 4.5% of these samples (15/336) were positive. Among the positive dogs, 67% (10/15) was 3 years old or above and 80% (12/15) was male. This result suggests that heartworm treatment and prophylaxis are necessary.

Keywords: canine heartworm, antigen test kit, antigenemia

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