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Evaluation of *Anaplasmatraceae* Family Agents Infection in Domestic Cats

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Abstract

The present study aimed to determine the occurrence of *Anaplasmatraceae* family agents and to assess comparative hematology in cats from District Federal, Brazil using molecular methods. Blood samples from two hundred cats from different regions of District Federal were submitted to two different PCR protocols to amplify the 16S rRNA gene of *Anaplasmatraceae* agents and *Anaplasma platys*. Besides, all samples were analyzed by complete blood cell count (CBC). The occurrence of *Anaplasmatraceae* agents was 13% (26/200), whereas that of *Anaplasma platys* was 3.5% (7/200). There was no significant difference ($P < 0.05$) of hematological parameters between positive and negative animals. The most frequent hematological alterations seen in *Anaplasmatraceae* positive cats were lymphopenia (40%) and hyperproteinemia (28%). The infection of *Anaplasmatraceae* family agents and *Anaplasma platys* occur in cats from District Federal, Brazil, but is uncommon. Cats seem to be more resistant or adapted to these infectious agents than dogs, as no significant hematological alteration was observed.

Key words: *Anaplasma platys*, Feline, Hemogram, PCR, RickettsiosisISSN 0253-8318 (PRINT)
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