

Brucella canis in Canada

5 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW



Brucella canis is HERE

- *B. canis* is endemic to Canada but prevalence is low
- Most recent cases are the result of **dogs being imported** internationally
- *B. canis* is not a reportable disease and **testing is not required** prior to entry



Brucella canis Symptoms

- Symptoms **can be non-specific**, and dogs do not always appear seriously ill
- **Reproductive Symptoms:** spontaneous abortion, vaginal discharge, epididymitis, and scrotal edema
- **Non-Reproductive Symptoms:** chronic eye infections, infections of the intravertebral disks



Brucella canis Diagnostics

- **Clinical or pre-breeding screening:** culture, with serology confirmation for non-negative results
- **Travel screening:** rapid slide agglutination test and agar gel immunodiffusion test
- Vaginal discharge, aborted tissue, and semen are preferred for testing, but whole blood is also acceptable



Brucella canis Control

- Dogs infected with *B. canis* are considered infected for life
- Dogs should be **tested prior to entering breeding programs**
- Dogs that test positive should be **euthanised or isolated** with strict biosecurity protocols
- **Sterilisation** of positive dogs is also an important control measure



Brucella canis Reporting

- Please report cases of *B. canis* in Western Canada to the Companion Animal Surveillance Initiative

