ABSTRACT

Bartonella sp., a fast emerging bacterium nowadays, has the potential to infect and transmit to humans. This study aimed to determine the seroprevalence of Bartonella sp. in dogs. Thirty one domestic (stray and caged) dogs from Bacoor, Cavite were serologically tested to establish the seroprevalence of Bartonella antibodies. Serum samples were collected from twenty stray and eleven caged dogs and were diluted to a titer of 1:512. A commercially available Bartonella henselae IFA test kit was used to detect the presence of antibodies against Bartonella. Immunofluorescence was observed using an FITC epiflourescent microscope at a magnification of 400x. The results showed that the seroprevalence of Bartonella spp. IgG in stray dogs is 80% (n=20) while the caged dogs have 64% (n=11) The domestication status (stray and caged) of dogs has a significant (p = 0.000) correlation to Bartonella antibodies. This result indicates that dogs can transmit Bartonella spp. in humans.

