



**SEROPREVALENCE OF *Bartonella* spp. IN DOGS (*Canis familiaris* L.1578)
IN BACoor, CAVITE**

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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 epifluorescent 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.



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