C1162 INFECTION SCORE OF LEISHMANIA INFANTUM AS A THERAPEUTIC INDICATOR IN THE TREATMENT OF NATURALLY INFECTED DOGS.

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1 Background
In a retrospective study realized between January 2015 and January 2016, were included 46 dogs diagnosed with canine visceral leishmaniasis (LVC) that were treated with immunotherapy Leish-Tec® associated with Alopurinol® and Infervac® (RIBEIRO et al., 2013).

2 Methods
The infection in these animals was confirmed by serological tests (Indirect immunofluorescence - IFI and Elisa rapid test - IDEXX®), parasitological tests (bone marrow cytology and immunohistochemistry - IHQ) and Real-time polymerase chain reaction – qPCR. Clinical evaluation and laboratory examinations such as hematology, serum biochemistry, urinary biochemistry, urinalysis and abdominal ultrasound were performed every six months. All 46 dogs were considered symptomatic and were classified in a disease score of 1 to 4 (SOLANO GALLEGO et al 2009).

3 Results
In a previous assay of the data obtained at the beginning of the therapeutic protocol, it was observed that six of the animals were positive for IHQ (13%) and all of them (100%) presented a score ≥ 2. In the analysis of renal function through urine protein-creatinine (UPC) nine of all the animals (19%) presented values ≥ above normal and from the nine animals, seven (78%) presented a score ≥ 2. In relation to the fractionAlbumin / Globulin (A / G), thirteen of the 46 dogs (28%) presented values ≤ below 0.6% dL and of these thirteen, nine (69%) had a score ≥ 2.

4 Conclusions
Considering the observed data, it can be inferred that the score ≥ 2 is compatible with the higher chance of high parasitic load, according to the correlation of the IHQ with xenodiagnosis (TAFURI et al., 2004), and renal disease, either by reduction in value Of the A / G fraction or the UPC value below 0.5mg / dL, which may be a good indicator for the initiation of the therapeutic protocol. Further more, it can auxiliate the the staging of the disease.