C1764 OCCURRENCE OF ARTERIAL HYPERTENSION IN DOGS NATURALLY INFECTED BY LEISHMANIA INFANTUM IN THE CLINICAL STAGING OF INFECTION.

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1 Background
Systemic arterial hypertension (SAH) is a disease that affects dogs and has been gaining importance in veterinary practice, but it is still underdiagnosed. SAH is characterized by a sustained increase in systolic blood pressure (SBP) and diastolic blood pressure (DBP) and may be classified as primary or idiopathic, associated with stress (white coat hypertension), and secondary. The last one is the most prevalent in dogs and cats. The most frequent causes of secondary SAH are endocrine, cardiac, vascular, renal disease and also obesity, traumatic brain injury, electrolytic changes and in blood viscosity and istrogenic disorders. The SAH causes damage to the organic functioning, generating cardiac, renal, ocular and cerebral damages, in those that are considered the main “target organs”. Despite these related causes, no infectious contagious disease has been routinely related to SAH.

2 Methods
In order to evaluate the relationship of dogs with canine visceral leishmaniasis (CVL) with the occurrence of SAH, a retrospective study was carried out involving 265 animals in which 60/265 (23%) were positive for CVL.

3 Results
Among the positive dogs, 36/60 (60%) had SAH. These preliminary results indicate a high occurrence of SAH in dogs with CVL. Among the clinical alterations associated with the origin of SAH in dogs with CVL we can mention nephropathies, hyperviscosity syndrome and anaemia as the most frequent alterations.

4 Conclusions
Therefore, studies that aim to correlate the causes of SAH in dogs with CVL should be further investigated and veterinary clinicians should be aware of the occurrence of SAH in dogs with CVL.