INTRODUCTION
The inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) is an idiopathic inflammatory disorder that affects gastrointestinal tract (GIT). The histopathological evaluation shows an inflammation in the colonic mucosa: lymphoplasmacytic colitis and histiocytic colitis. A pathogen or infectious agent could be a possible cause of IBD such as *Leishmania infantum*. The main aim of this study was to clarify if *L. infantum* infection would be a possible cause of IBD.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

1. Database selection
- Diagenet application of Servei de Diagnàstic de Patologia Veterinària (SDPV).
- Lymphoplasmacytic or histiocytic enteritis / colitis / enterocolitis
- Information: breed, age, sex (castrated / not castrated), clinical signs, type of sample, histological diagnosis, etc.

2. Immunohistochemistry for *Leishmania*

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES AND RESULTS

1. To retrospectively evaluate the diagnoses of *L. infantum* infection in dogs with IBD.

   Figure 1. Percentages of *Leishmania* IHC performed in dogs diagnosed with IBD and percentages of *Leishmania* IHC results from Diagenet.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inflammation pattern</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lymphoplasmacytic enteritis</td>
<td>32.6 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lymphoplasmacytic colitis</td>
<td>19.4 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Histiocytic colitis</td>
<td>2.6 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Histiocytic enteritis</td>
<td>0.4 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

   Table 1. Percentage of types of inflammation and the segment of the gastrointestinal tract affected in dogs with a diagnosis of IBD from Diagenet.

2. To determine *L. infantum* infection in colonic biopsies diagnosed with IBD and description of the clinical cases.

Detection of 1 positive case from 27 cases by IHQ technique (3.6 %).

3. Description of the histological lesions and parasite load of cases diagnosed with IBD and infection with *Leishmania*.

CONCLUSIONS
- The inflammation associated with *Leishmania* infection in the colon is both histiocytic and lymphoplasmacytic.
- Both the degree of inflammation and parasitism seems to vary between individuals.
- IHC for *Leishmania* is not commonly employed to describe this infection in dogs with a histological diagnosis of IBD.
- IHC for *Leishmania* should be routinely used as a diagnostic tool in endemic areas, to exclude or confirm an infection by this parasite in patients with a diagnosis of IBD.