

2<sup>nd</sup> European Crypto-infections Conference,  
Catherine Mc Auley Centre, Dublin, Ireland, September 26-27, 2020.

# Endocarditis, a common pathology caused by chronic Bartonella infections in both animals and humans



**Bruno B. CHOMEL**

**Distinguished Professor  
of Zoonoses**



Department of Population Health  
and Reproduction,  
School of Veterinary Medicine,  
University of California, Davis, CA, USA

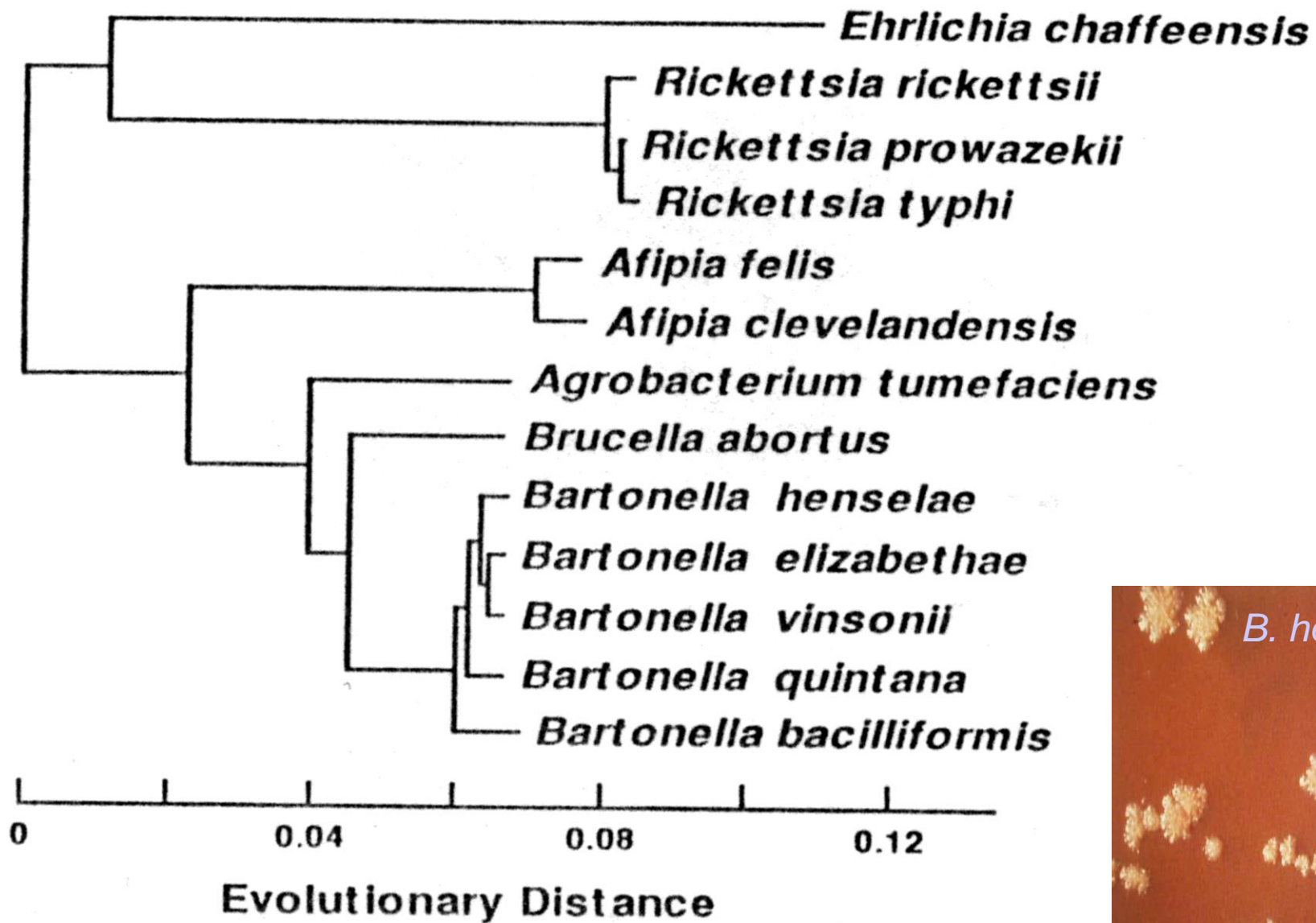


Updated: 9/25/2020



**UC DAVIS**  
**VETERINARY MEDICINE**

# Alpha-Proteobacteria



**TABLE 1** Currently designated *Bartonella* species, their hosts, and associated human disease

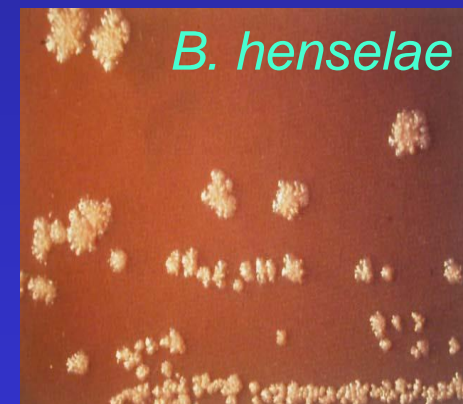
| Species                                       | Host(s)   | Human disease association               |
|---|---|---|
| <i>B. acomydis</i>                            | Golden spiny mouse ( <i>Acomys russatus</i> ) (398) |   |
| <i>B. alsatica</i>                            | Rabbits (39)  | Endocarditis (40)                       |
| <i>B. ancashensis</i>                         | Human patient (41)                                  | Verruga peruana (41, 399)               |
| <i>B. apis</i>                                | Honeybee symbiont (400)                             |   |
| <i>B. australis</i>                           | Kangaroos (58)                                      |   |
| <i>B. bacilliformis</i>                       | Human (26, 401)                                     | Oroya fever, verruga peruana,           |
| <i>B. birtlesii</i>                           | Mice (402)  | Carrion's disease (26)                  |
| <i>B. bovis</i>                               | Dairy cattle (403)                                  |   |
| <i>B. callosciuri</i>                         | Plantain squirrel (398)                             |   |
| <i>B. capreoli</i>                            | Deer (403)  |   |
| <i>B. chomelii</i>                            | French cattle (404)                                 |   |
| <i>B. clarridgeiae</i>                        | Cat (187)   | Lymphadenopathy, fever, papule, CSD     |
| <i>B. cooperi</i>                             | Rat (58)  | (44, 187)                               |
| <i>B. doshiae</i>                             | Voles (405)   |   |
| <i>B. dromedarii</i>                          | Camels (406)  |   |
| <i>B. elizabethae</i>                         | Rats (24)   | Endocarditis, neuroretinitis (18, 407)  |
| <i>B. florenciae</i>                          | Shrew, mouse (408)                                  |   |
| <i>B. fuyuanensis</i>                         | Field mouse (409)                                   |   |
| <i>B. grahamii</i>                            | Rodents, voles (405)                                | Neuroretinitis, CSD (51, 53)            |
| <i>B. heixiaziensis</i>                       | Vole (409)  |   |
| <i>B. henselae</i>                            | Cat (31, 140)                                       | CSD, endocarditis, bacillary            |
| <i>B. jaculi</i>                              | Greater Egyptian jerboa (398)                       | angiomas, bacteremia (140)              |
| <i>B. japonica</i>                            | Mice (410)  |   |
| <i>B. koehlerae</i>                           | Cat (411)   | Endocarditis (19)                       |
| <i>B. koehlerae</i> subsp. <i>bothieri</i>    | Bobcat (412)  |   |
| <i>B. koehlerae</i> subsp. <i>boulouisii</i>  | Mountain lion (412)                                 |   |
| <i>B. mayotimonensis</i>                      | Bats (55)   | Endocarditis (20)                       |
| <i>B. melophagi</i>                           | Sheep (413)   |   |
| <i>B. naantaliensis</i>                       | Bats (55)   |   |
| <i>B. peromysci</i>                           | Mouse (405)   |   |
| <i>B. pachyuromydis</i>                       | Fat-tail gerbil (398)                               |   |
| <i>B. phoceensis</i>                          | Rat (414)   |   |
| <i>B. queenslandensis</i>                     | Rats (58)   |   |
| <i>B. quintana</i>                            | Human (415)   | Trench fever, endocarditis, bacteremia, |
| <i>B. rattaaustraliani</i>                    | Rats (416)  | bacillary angiomas                      |
| <i>B. rattimassiliensis</i>                   | Rats (414)  |   |
| <i>B. rochalimae</i>                          | Foxes, raccoons, coyotes (57, 417)                  | Bacteremia, splenomegaly (57)           |
| <i>B. silvatica</i>                           | Mice (410)  |   |
| <i>B. schoenbuchensis</i>                     | Deer (418)  |   |
| <i>B. senegalensis</i>                        | Tick (419)  |   |
| <i>B. talpae</i>                              | Moles (405)   |   |
| <i>B. tamiiae</i>                             | Rodents, humans (58)                                | Fever (58, 59)                          |
| <i>B. taylorii</i>                            | Rats (405)  |   |
| <i>B. tribocorum</i>                          | Rats (420)  |   |
| <i>B. vinsonii</i> subsp. <i>arupensis</i>    | Mice (65)   | Endocarditis (21)                       |
| <i>B. vinsonii</i> subsp. <i>berkhoffii</i>   | Dog, coyotes (181, 421)                             | Endocarditis (23)                       |
| <i>B. vinsonii</i> subsp. <i>vinsonii</i>     | Voles (24)  |   |
| <i>B. vinsonii</i> subsp. <i>yucatanensis</i> | Rodents (5)   |   |
| <i>B. weissii</i>                             | Cat (181)   |   |
| <i>B. washoensis</i>                          | Dog (422)   |   |

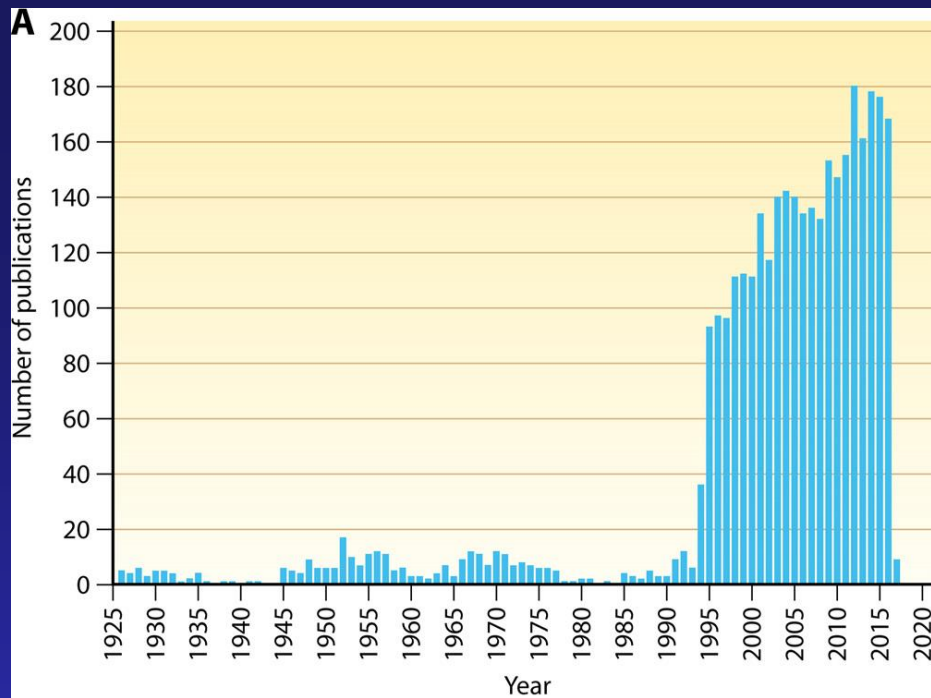
Okaro et al.,  
Clin Microbiol Rev.  
2017;30:709-746



# Conditions caused by *Bartonella* species in Humans

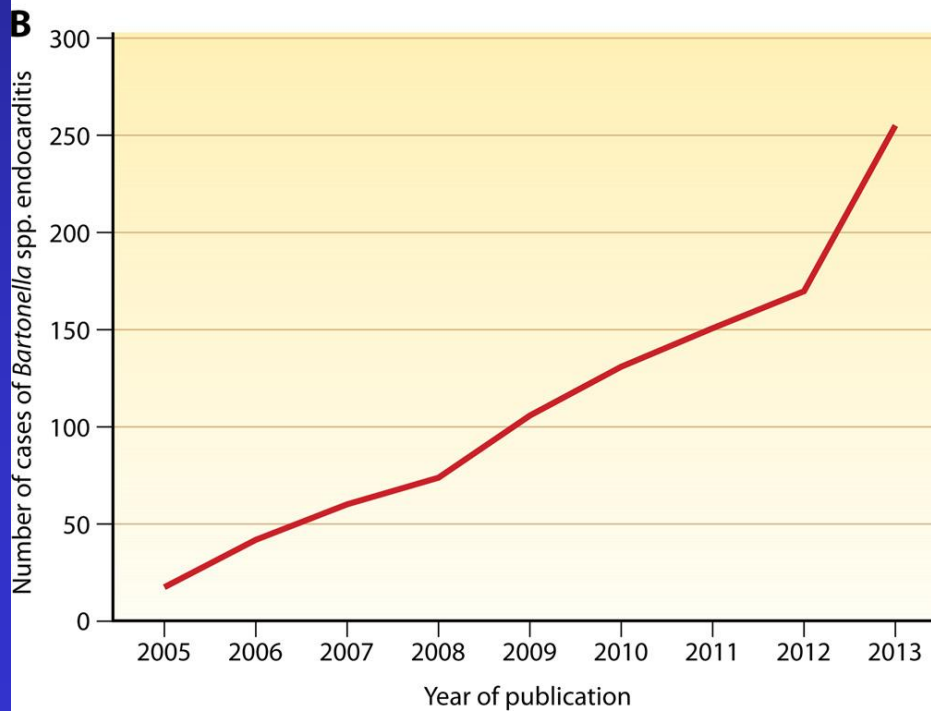
| <i>Bartonella</i> sp.           | N               | Condition (s)   |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|---|
| <i>B. bacilliformis</i>         | 10 <sup>3</sup> | Carrion's disease (Oroya fever or verruga peruana), Andes, Peru [Not Z]   |
| <i>B. quintana</i> (Z)          | 10 <sup>2</sup> | Trench fever, endocarditis, chronic bacteremia, bacillary angiomatosis Worldwide  |
| <i>B. henselae</i> (Z)          | 10 <sup>4</sup> | Cat scratch disease, endocarditis, myocarditis, chronic bacteremia, neuroretinitis, arthritis, status epilepticus, bacillary angiomatosis, peliosis hepatis, prolonged fever, weight loss, glomerulonephritis, osteomyelitis... (Worldwide) |
| <i>B. clarridgeiae</i> (Z)      | <5              | CSD?, health blood donor, endocarditis (Brazil, USA)  |
| <i>B. elizabethae</i> (Z)       | <5              | Endocarditis, Neuroretinitis  |
| <i>B. v. berkhoffii</i> (Z)     | <5              | Endocarditis (USA)  |
| <i>B. grahamii</i> (Z)          | <5              | Uveitis, bilateral occlusion of retinal artery (The Netherlands)  |
| <i>B. v. arupensis</i> (Z)      | <10             | Fever, confusion, underlying valvulopathy, (Thailand)   |
| <i>B. washoensis</i> (Z)        | <5              | Fever, Myocarditis (USA)  |
| <i>B. koehlerae</i> (Z)         | <5              | Endocarditis, (Israel)  |
| <i>B. alsatica</i> (Z)          | <5              | Endocarditis, lymphadenopathy, (France)   |
| <i>B. rochalimae</i> (Z)        | <5              | Fever, enlarged spleen, (Peru/USA)  |
| <i>B. tamiae</i> (Z??)          | <5              | Fever, ocular symptoms, fatigue, myalgia, (Thailand)  |
| <i>B. volans</i> -like (Z)      | <5              | Joint pain, memory loss, and incoordination, (USA)  |
| <i>B. mayotimonensis</i> (Z)    | <5              | Endocarditis, (USA)   |
| <i>B. rattimassiliensis</i> (Z) | <5              | Febrile patient, (Thailand)   |
| <i>B. vinsonii vinsonii</i> (Z) | <5              | Febrile patient, (Thailand)   |
| <i>B. tribocorum</i> (Z)        | <5              | Chronic fatigue, Lyme negative, tick exposure, (France)   |
| <i>B. doshiae</i> (Z)           | <5              | Chronic fatigue, Lyme negative, tick exposure, (France)   |
| <i>B. schoenbuchensis</i> (Z)   | <5              | Chronic fatigue, Lyme negative, tick exposure, (France)   |





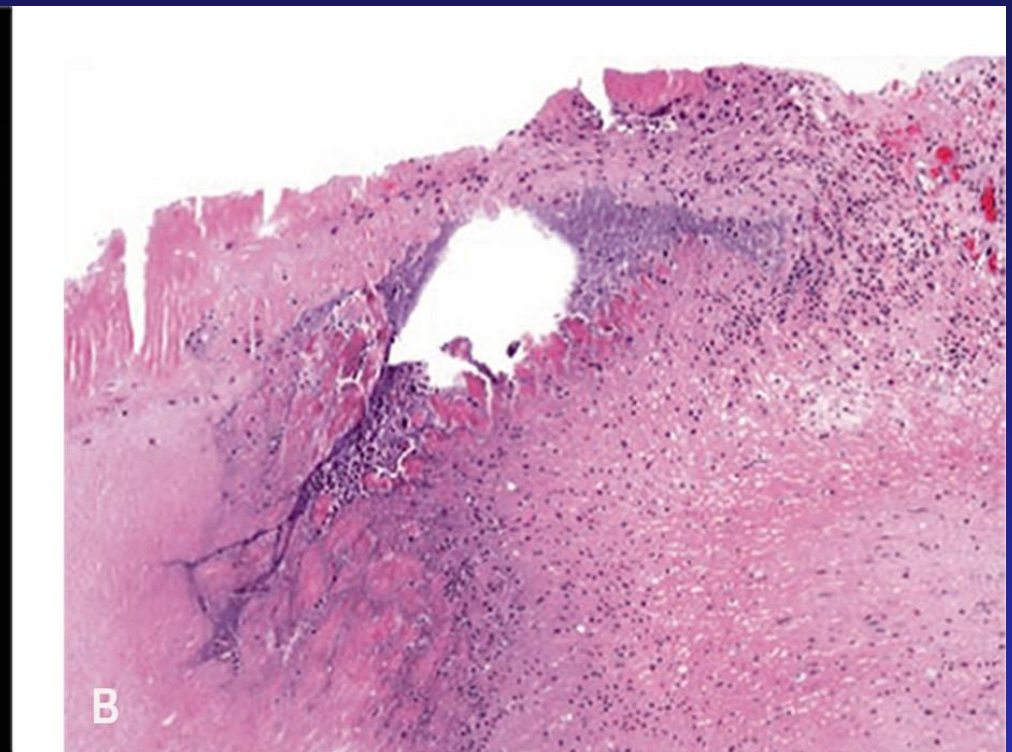
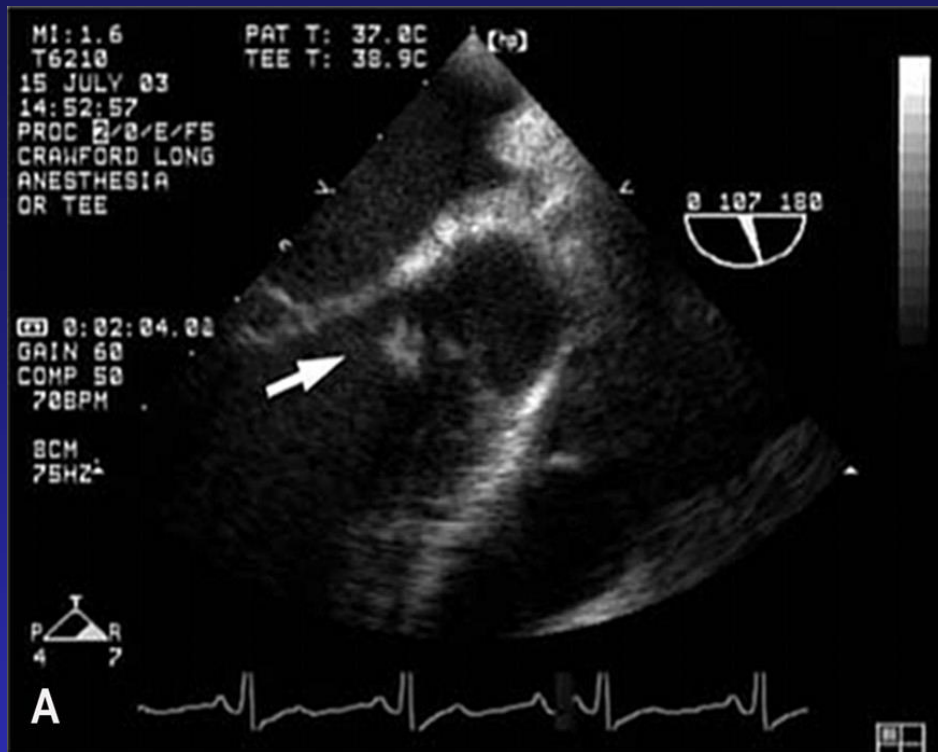
“ In France, approximately 20% to 30% of all documented cases of Blood Culture Negative Endocarditis (BCNE) are *Bartonella* endocarditis, representing the second most common cause of endocarditis following *Coxiella burnetii*”

(A) Number of publications on *Bartonella* in PubMed. Source: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/?term=bartonella>.



(B) Increase in reported *Bartonella* endocarditis cases. (Adapted from Edouard et al.

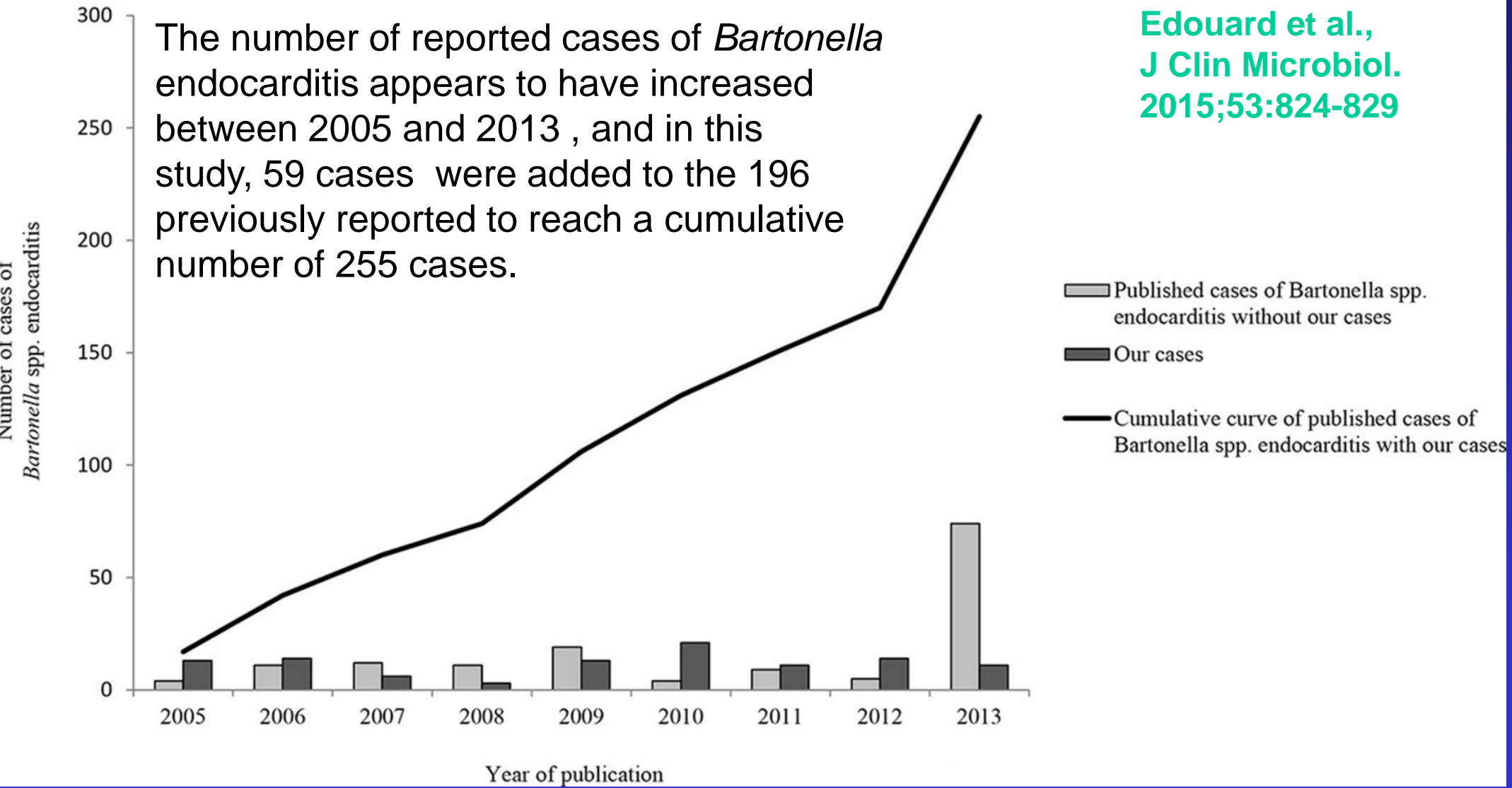
Okaro et al.,  
Clin Microbiol Rev.  
2017;30(3):709-746



- (A) Transoesophageal echocardiogram from a patient with BCNE caused by *B. henselae*. Bicuspid aortic valve with left coronary leaflet almost entirely replaced by a large vegetation (arrow).
- (B) Giemsa stain of the patient in panel A showing extensive fibrosis and coccobacilli on the aortic valve that were confirmed to be *B. henselae*

# *Bartonella*, a Common cause of endocarditis: a Report on 106 Cases and Review

Number of cases of *Bartonella* spp. endocarditis diagnosed in our center and reported in the published literature by other centers





# *Bartonella*, a Common cause of endocarditis: a Report on 106 Cases and Review

Edouard et al., J Clin Microbiol. 2015;53:824-829.

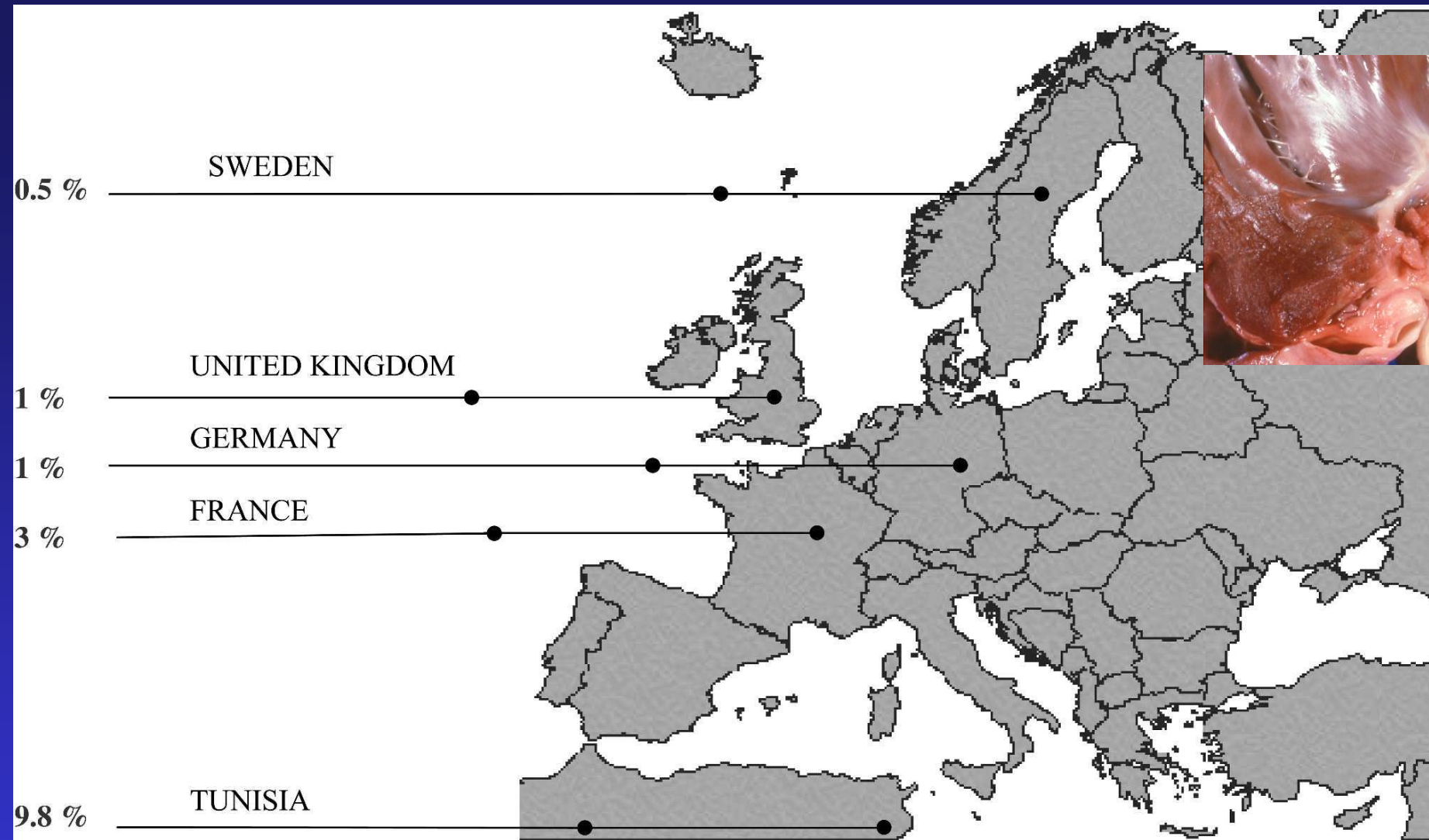
TABLE 1 Microbiologic diagnosis of 106 patients with *Bartonella* endocarditis

| Test type and criteria                            | No. of positive samples/no. of samples tested (%) |
|---|---|
| <b>IFA</b>  |   |
| IFA with IgG titer $\geq$ 100                     | 93/102 (91)                                       |
| IFA with IgG titer $\geq$ 800                     | 59/93 (63)  |
| IFA with IgG titer from 1:100 to 1:800            | 34/93 (37)  |
| Negative IFA                                      | 9/102 (9)   |
| <b>Western blotting</b>                           |   |
| Total   | 73/73 (100)                                       |
| Patient with IgG titer $\geq$ 1:800               | 40/40 (100)                                       |
| Patient with IgG titer from 1:100 to 1:800        | 25/25 (100)                                       |
| Patient with negative IFA                         | 8/8 (100)   |
| <b>Specific RT-PCR for <i>Bartonella</i> spp.</b> |   |
| Cardiac valves                                    | 48/52 (92)  |
| Blood   | 20/60 (33)  |
| Serum   | 25/70 (36)  |
| <b>16S RNA amplification</b>                      |   |
| Cardiac valves                                    | 21/35 (60)  |
| Blood   | 0/15 (0)  |

TABLE 3 Epidemiologic features and biological data of the 91 patients with endocarditis induced by *Bartonella* spp. identified to the species level

| Species            | No. of cases | Mean age (yr) | Sex ratio (no. male/no. female) | No. of samples positive in the indicated test/total no. of samples tested |                  |                     |                     |                     |
|--------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------------------------|---|------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
|                    |              |               |                                 | IFA with IgG $\geq$ 1:800   | Western blotting | PCR on valve sample | PCR on blood sample | PCR on serum sample |
| <i>B. quintana</i> | 48           | 54            | 43/5                            | 28/47   | 35/35            | 26/27               | 13/28               | 13/32               |
| <i>B. henselae</i> | 39           | 49            | 26/13                           | 19/36   | 28/28            | 19/20               | 6/24                | 12/24               |
| <i>B. alsatica</i> | 3            | 64            | 2/1                             | 0/3   | 3/3              | 1/1                 | 0/3                 | 0/1                 |
| <i>B. vinsonii</i> | 1            | 19            | 1/0                             | 1/1   | 1/1              | ND                  | 1/1                 | 0/1                 |





Proportion of *Bartonella* endocarditis among Infectious Endocarditis in Europe and North Africa.

Source: Znazen et al., Am. J. Trop Med 2005;72: 503-507.

# Bartonella endocarditis in patients from the U. K.

Table 1. Clinical and diagnostic data for the 14 patients from whom tissue was submitted for PCR

| Patient no. | Sample date   | Age/sex | Valve tissue examined | IFAT results* |               |               |               | Species detected by PCR | Comments  |
|-------------|---------------|---------|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------------|---|
|             |               |         |                       | <i>Bh</i> IgM | <i>Bh</i> IgG | <i>Bq</i> IgM | <i>Bq</i> IgG |                         |   |
| 1           | Jan. 2006     | 39 F    | Aortic                | <20           | >512          | <20           | >512          | <i>B. quintana</i>      | Recent immigrant from Russia  |
| 2           | 6 Feb. 2006   | 35 M    | Aortic                | <20           | >512          | 20            | >512          | <i>B. quintana</i>      | Recent immigrant from Russia: itinerant builder [23]                                    |
| 3           | 22 Feb. 2006  | 56 M    | Aortic                | <20           | >512          | 80            | >512          | <i>B. quintana</i>      | No known risk factors   |
| 4           | 16 May 2006   | 40 M    | Valve†                | <20           | >512          | <20           | >512          | <i>B. quintana</i>      | No known risk factors   |
| 5           | 11 Feb. 2007  | 39 M    | Aortic                | <20           | >512          | <20           | >512          | <i>B. quintana</i>      | Recent immigrant from Lithuania: handyman, known to have lived 'rough' for a few months |
| 6           | 19 Sept. 2007 | 58 F    | Aortic                | <20           | 256           | <20           | 256           | <i>B. quintana</i>      | No known risk factors   |
| 7           | 8 Sept. 2007  | 33 M    | Aortic                | <20           | 512           | <20           | 512           | <i>B. quintana</i>      | Recent immigrant from Czech Republic  |
| 8           | 11 Feb. 2008  | 18 M    | Aortic & mitral‡      | 80            | >512          | <20           | >512          | <i>B. quintana</i>      | Recent immigrant from Iran: history of congenital heart disease                         |
| 9           | 23 June 2008  | 36 M    | Aortic & mitral       | <20           | >512          | <20           | 64            | <i>B. henselae</i>      | No known risk factors [24]  |
| 10          | 22 July 2008  | 30 M    | Mitral                | <20           | >512          | 40            | >512          | <i>B. quintana</i>      | No known risk factors   |
| 11          | 1 Sept. 2009  | 61 F    | Aortic                | <20           | >512          | <20           | >512          | <i>B. quintana</i>      | No known risk factors   |
| 12          | 22 Feb. 2010  | 34 M    | Mitral                | 80            | >512          | 80            | >512          | <i>B. quintana</i>      | Recent immigrant from Poland, lived in squat, heavy drinker                             |
| 13          | May 2010      | 69 F    | Mitral                | <20           | >512          | <20           | >512          | <i>B. quintana</i>      | No known risk factors   |
| 14          | 11 May 2007   | 62 M    | Heart material§       | <20           | >512          | <20           | >512          | Not detected            | Had BCNE and severe pneumonia   |

*Bh*, *B. henselae*; *Bq*, *B. quintana*.

\* Titres are given as the highest serum dilution yielding a positive result except: <20=a negative result at the screening dilution of 1:20, >512=strongly positive at the highest dilution tested (1:512).

† Recorded as 'heart valve'.

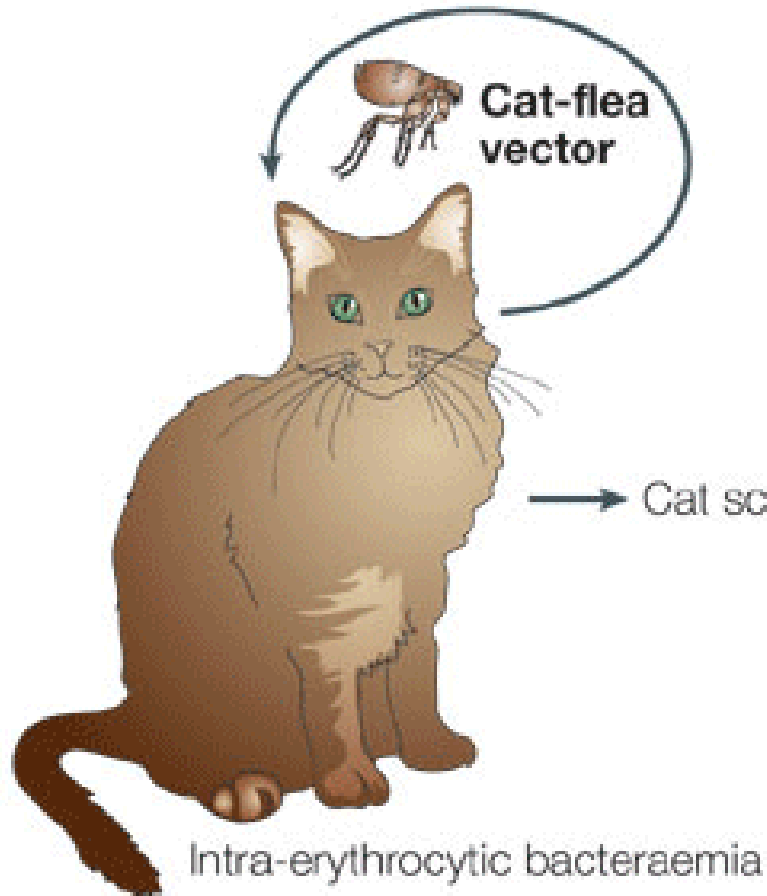
‡ Also a sample of brain tissue, which was negative for *Bartonella* spp.

§ Heart tissue taken from the left atrium.

Between November 2005 and October 2010, samples from 685 endocarditis patients were submitted to the Health Protection Agency, U. K. for *Bartonella* serology. Serological evidence of infection was obtained for 57 (8.3%) patients.

PCR-based evidence of infection obtained from 13/14 patients for whom heart valve tissue was available. Six patients with *B. quintana* endocarditis were recent immigrants into the UK, of whom four lived in poor socioeconomic conditions. Therefore, *Bartonella* is a not uncommon cause of endocarditis in the UK.

## Feline reservoir host



## Human incidental host

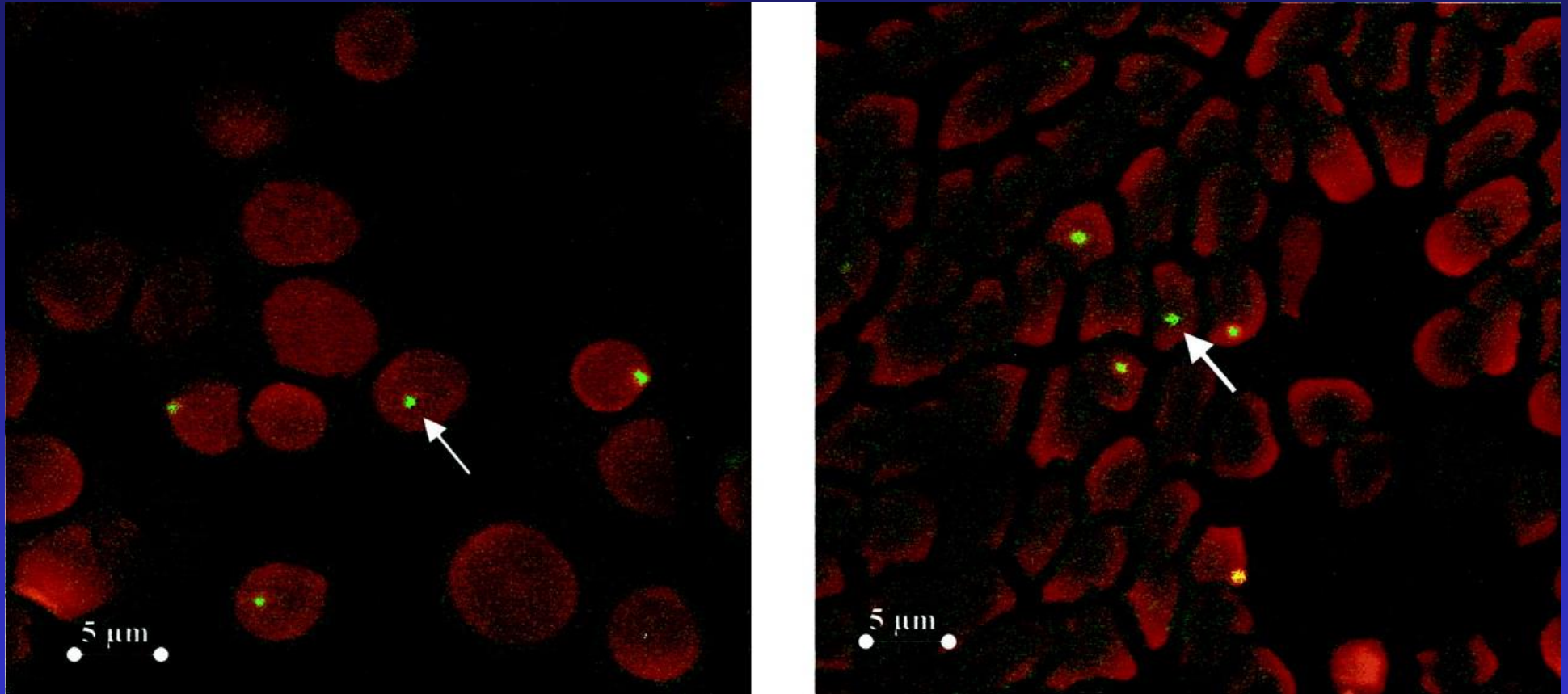


Cat-scratch disease in immunocompetent person



Bacillary angiomatosis in immunocompromised person

Digital sections of feline red blood cells infected with *B. henselae* as viewed by laser scanning confocal microscopy.



Rolain J M et al. J. Clin. Microbiol. 2001;39:2978-2980

Journal of Clinical Microbiology



Domestic dogs can be infected with a wide range of *Bartonella* spp. or subspecies, including:

*B. vinsonii* subsp. *berkhoffii*, (Z)

*B. henselae*,(Z)

*B. rochalimae*, (Z)

*B. clarridgeiae*, (Z)

*B. washoensis*, (Z)

*B. elizabethae*,(Z)

*B. vinsonii* subsp. *arupensis* (Z)

*B. quintana*, (Z)

*B. koehlerae*, (Z)

*B. bovis*,

*B. grahamii*, (Z)

*B. taylorii*

*B. vinsonii* subsp. *vinsonii*

and new candidate species,

*B. volans*-like (Z)

*Candidatus B. merieuxii* (formerly HMD)

three novel genotypes (BK1 (Bangkok), KK1 (Khon Kaen) and KK2)



# Clinical features of *Bartonella* infection in Domestic Dogs

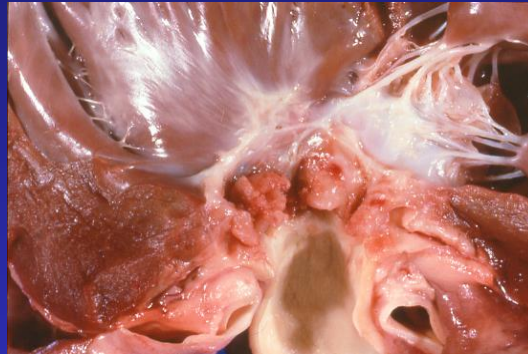
## *Bartonella* species

## Clinical signs

*B. vinsonii* subsp. *berkhoffii*

Endocarditis, arrhythmias, Myocarditis, granulomatous rhinitis and lymphadenitis, anterior uveitis, chorioretinitis, meningo-encephalitis, anemia/thrombocytopenia

*B. henselae*



Endocarditis, peliosis hepatis, granulomatous hepatitis, polyarthrits, idiopathic effusions, lymphadenitis, panniculitis

*B. henselae* &  
*B. elizabethae*

Non specific clinical abnormalities  
(severe weight loss, protracted lethargy, anorexia & chronic disease course)

*B. clarridgeiae*

Endocarditis, hepatic lesions

*B. washoensis*

Endocarditis

*B. quintana*

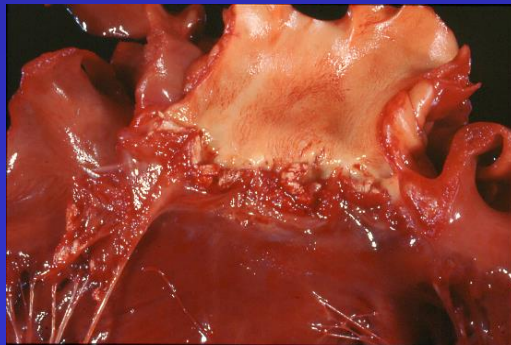
Endocarditis

*B. koehlerae*

Endocarditis

*B. rochalimae*

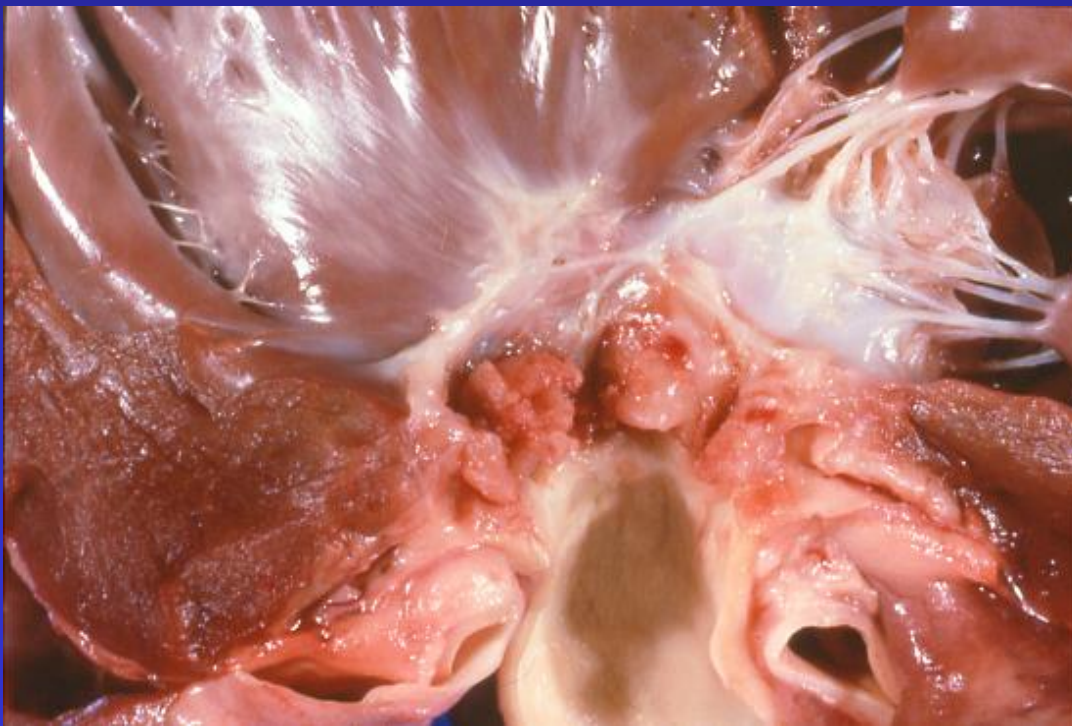
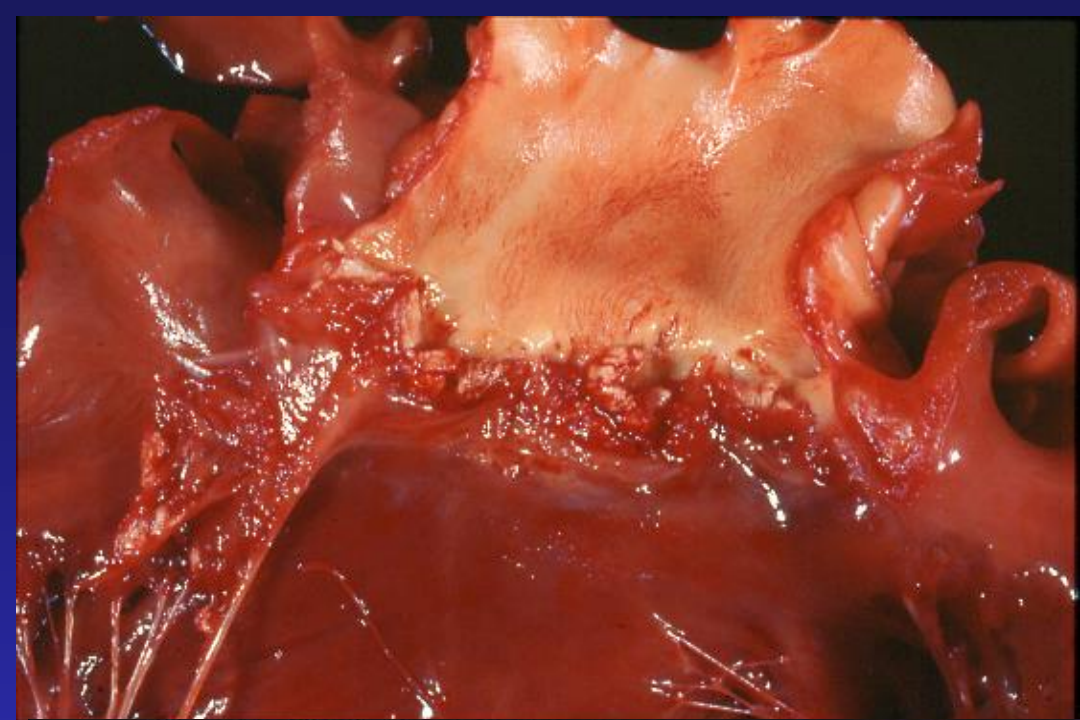
Endocarditis, seizures, lameness





# Dog endocarditis Caused by *Bartonella* spp.

*B. clarridgeiae* detected  
By PCR in this dog



# Clinical Symptoms and Etiology of Dog Endocarditis Cases, U.C. Davis, VMTH, 1999-2001.

---

| 18 dogs, all medium to large breed, median weight |                               | N (%)   |
|---|-------------------------------|---------|
| Presenting complaint:                             | lameness                      | 8 (44%) |
|   | lethargy                      | 6 (33%) |
|   | anorexia                      | 6 (33%) |
|   | respiratory problems          | 4 (22%) |
|   | weakness                      | 3 (17%) |
| Valve involvement:                                | aortic                        | 9 (50%) |
|   | mitral                        | 8 (44%) |
|   | aortic and mitral             | 1 ( 6%) |
| Etiology:   | Unknown                       | 6 (33%) |
|   | <i>Bartonella</i>             | 5 (28%) |
|   | <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>  | 3 (17%) |
|   | <i>Streptococcus canis</i>    | 2 (11%) |
|   | <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> | 1 ( 6%) |
|   | <i>Escherichia coli</i>       | 1 ( 6%) |

McDonald et al.,  
J Vet Intern Med.  
2004;18:56-64



# Clinical Cases of Dog Endocarditis, U.C. Davis, 6/1999-5/2001

| ID# | Date  | Age   | Sex | Breed        | Valve  | <i>Bartonella</i> |          |          | <i>A. phag</i> |
|-----|-------|-------|-----|--------------|--------|-------------------|----------|----------|----------------|
|     |       |       |     |              |        | serol             | Cult     | PCR      | Serol          |
| 1   | 6/99  | 7 y   | MN  | Bernese      | Aortic | Neg               | Neg      | NA       | Neg            |
| 2   | 11/99 | 14 y  | FS  | Australian   | Mitral | Neg               | Neg      | NA       | Neg            |
| 3   | 12/99 | 14 y  | FS  | Shetland     | Aortic | Neg               | Neg      | NA       | Neg            |
| 4   | 1/00  | 9 y   | MN  | Shepherd     | Aortic | 1024              | Neg      | + (Bc-l) | 1:160          |
| 5   | 3/00  | 10y   | MN  | Labrador     | Mitral | Neg               | Neg      | NA       | Neg            |
| 6   | 4/00  | 2.5 y | MN  | Boxer        | Aortic | 2048              | + (B.c.) | + (B.c.) | 1:100          |
| 7   | 6/00  | 9y    | MN  | Germ. Shep.  | Mitral | Neg               | Neg      | NA       | Neg            |
| 8   | 6/00  | 4 y   | MN  | Red Hound    | Mitral | Neg               | Neg      | NA       | Neg            |
| 9   | 10/00 | 8 y   | FS  | Germ. Shep.  | Mitral | 32/64             | Neg      | NA       | Neg            |
| 10  | 10/00 | 5.5 y | M   | Labrador     | Aortic | Neg               | Neg      | NA       | Neg            |
| 11  | 12/00 | 6 mo  | F   | Great Dane   | Aortic | Neg               | Neg      | NA       | Neg            |
| 12  | 1/01  | 7 y   | M   | Bull Mastiff | Aortic | 1024              | Neg      | + (Bvb)  | 1:640          |
| 13  | 1/01  | 6 y   | MN  | Airedale     | Aortic | 1024              | Neg      | + (Bvb)  | 1:320          |
| 14  | 1/01  | 12 y  | MN  | Golden retr. | Mitral | Neg               | Neg      | NA       | 1:80           |
| 15  | 2/01  | 10 y  | MN  | Labrador mix | Aortic | 4096              | Neg.     | + (Bvb)  | 1:100          |
| 16  | 3/01  | 9y    | MC  | Shepherd mix | M&A    | Neg               | Neg      | Neg      | Neg            |
| 17  | 4/01  | 6.5y  | FS  | Bull Mastiff | Mitral | 256 (Bc)          | Neg      | Neg      | Neg            |
| 18  | 5/01  | 8y    | FS  | Golden retr. | Mitral | Neg               | Neg      | Neg      | Neg            |

# *Bartonella* spp. Endocarditis Case-Control Study in U.S. Army Working Dogs (from A.F.I.P. archives).

---

## Materials and Methods:

- CASES: 26 dogs with histopathological diagnosis of endocarditis.
- CONTROLS: 28 dogs with history of hip dysplasia, no lymphoplasmatic changes on histopathology of cardiac tissue.
- Histopathology: H & E, Warthin-Starry silver staining
- DNA extraction (Qiagen Kits)
- PCR/RFLP of citrate synthase (*gtfA*) gene
  - (*TaqI*, *HhaI*, *AccI* and *MseI* endonucleases)
  - Partial sequencing of citrate synthase gene

# *Bartonella* spp. Endocarditis Case-Control Study in U.S. Army Dogs (from A.F.I.P. archives).

---

## RESULTS:

- CASES: 73.0% (19/26 dogs) PCR Positive
- CONTROLS: 3.6% ( 1/28 dogs) PCR weak Positive
  
- Histopathology: 20% (4/20) had visible organisms with Warthin-Starry silver staining
  
- PCR/RFLP of *gltA* gene and partial sequencing of the gene: several profiles or sequences, including
  - 6 *B. vinsonii berkhoffii* (2 from Thailand, 1974; 4 from USA (Bethesda, MD, 1978; San Antonio, TX, 1978 and 1986; Puerto Rico, 1987)
  - 8 *B. henselae* (mainly Vietnam, 1970-1972)
  - 1 *B. elizabethae* (Germany 1988)
  - 2 *B. washoensis* (Guam, 1992; Germany, 1995)
  - 2 mixed infections (Okinawa, 1970; Florida, 1986)

# *Bartonella* spp. Valvular Endocarditis in Dogs Necropsied at U.C. Davis (1997-2001).

(Pesavento et al., *Vet Pathol.* 2005;42:370-373)

---

- 31 necropsied dogs with valvular endocarditis during the 5-year period.
- Routine blood culture positive for 10 dogs, including *E. coli*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, Beta-hemolytic *streptococci* and *Staphylococcus* spp.
- *Bartonella* DNA detected by PCR (primers directed at citrate synthase gene) on 12 (38.7%) of these 31 dogs.
  - 2 dogs also blood culture positive for other pathogens
  - 10 dogs blood culture negative.mean (range) age: 9 (1-16) yrs; 9/12 intact/neutered males  
5/12 had history of polyarthrititis or swollen joints.



# *Bartonella endocarditis*

## Humans:

France: 3% (10/299) (Marseille) to 4.5% (Lyon) of all endocarditis cases

Germany: 3% (*B. henselae*: 2.6%; *B. quintana*: 0.4%)

Sweden: 1 case in 1997; 0/334 infective endocarditis

United Kingdom: 1.1%

Tunisia: almost 10% (mainly *B. quintana*)

(source: Brouqui & Raoult, FEMS Immunol Med Microbiol, 2006;47:1-13)

## Dogs:

USA, California: 8/45 (18%) (Sykes et al., 2006),  
5/18 (28%) (MacDonald et al., 2004)

6/31 (19%) (Pesavento et al., 2005)

USA, Colorado: 9/119 (7.6%) (Fenimore et al., 2011)

# Published endocarditis cases in dogs from around the world

| <i>Bartonella</i> species | Number of cases (46) | Country   |
|---------------------------|----------------------|---|
| <i>B. v. berkhoffii</i>   |                      |   |
| type III                  | 3                    | USA (Army) [N.Carol. tested]                      |
| type IV                   | 1                    | Canada  |
| N.S. (Not stated)         | 6                    | USA (Army) [U.C. Davis tested]                    |
| N.S.                      | 6                    | USA (3 Calif.; 3 North Carol.)                    |
| N.S.                      | 3                    | USA (Colorado* co-infect)                         |
| N.S.                      | 2                    | Spain (1 co-infect with <i>B. rochalimae</i> )    |
| <i>B. henselae</i>        | 8                    | USA (Army) [U.C. Davis tested]                    |
|                           | 7*                   | USA (Colorado, Wyoming)                           |
|                           | 1                    | Israel  |
| <i>B. quintana</i>        | 2                    | USA, New Zealand                                  |
| <i>B. rochalimae</i>      | 1                    | USA (Army, co-infect.; N. C. tested]              |
|                           | 1                    | USA (Calif.)                                      |
|                           | 5                    | USA (Virginia, N. Carol., Texas (2), Florida)     |
|                           | 6                    | Spain (1 co-infect with <i>B. v. berkhoffii</i> ) |
| <i>B. koehlerae</i>       | 1                    | Israel  |
|                           | 1                    | Spain   |
| <i>B. clarridgeiae</i>    | 1                    | USA (Calif.)                                      |
|                           | 1                    | Brazil  |
| <i>B. washoensis</i>      | 1                    | USA (Calif)                                       |
|                           | 2                    | USA (Army) [U.C. Davis tested]                    |
| <i>B. elizabethae</i>     | 1                    | USA (Army) [U.C. Davis tested]                    |
| Unknown                   | 2                    | USA (Army) [U.C. Davis tested]                    |

# *Bartonella* species associated with endocarditis in humans and dogs

| <i>Bartonella</i> sp.             | Human                | Dogs          |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| <i>B. quintana</i> (Z)            | +++                  | + (2 cases)   |
| <i>B. henselae</i> (Z)            | ++                   | + +           |
| <i>B. clarridgeiae</i> (Z)        | 1 case (USA)*        | + (2 cases)   |
| <i>B. rochalimae</i> (Z)          | 1 case               | ++ (13 cases) |
| <i>B. vinsonii berkhoffii</i> (Z) | + (2 cases, UK, USA) | +++           |
| <i>B. vinsonii arupensis</i> (Z)  | + (1 case, France)   | No            |
| <i>B. washoensis</i> (Z)          | + (1 case, Germany)  | + (1 case)    |
| <i>B. koehlerae</i> (Z)           | + (1 case, Israel)   | + (2 cases)   |
| <i>B. elizabethae</i> (Z)         | + (1 case, USA)      | + (1 case)    |
| <i>B. alsatica</i> (Z)            | + (3 cases, France)  | No            |
| <i>B. mayotimonensis</i> (Z)      | + (1 case, USA)      | No            |

\* UCSF, J. Koehler, unpublished.

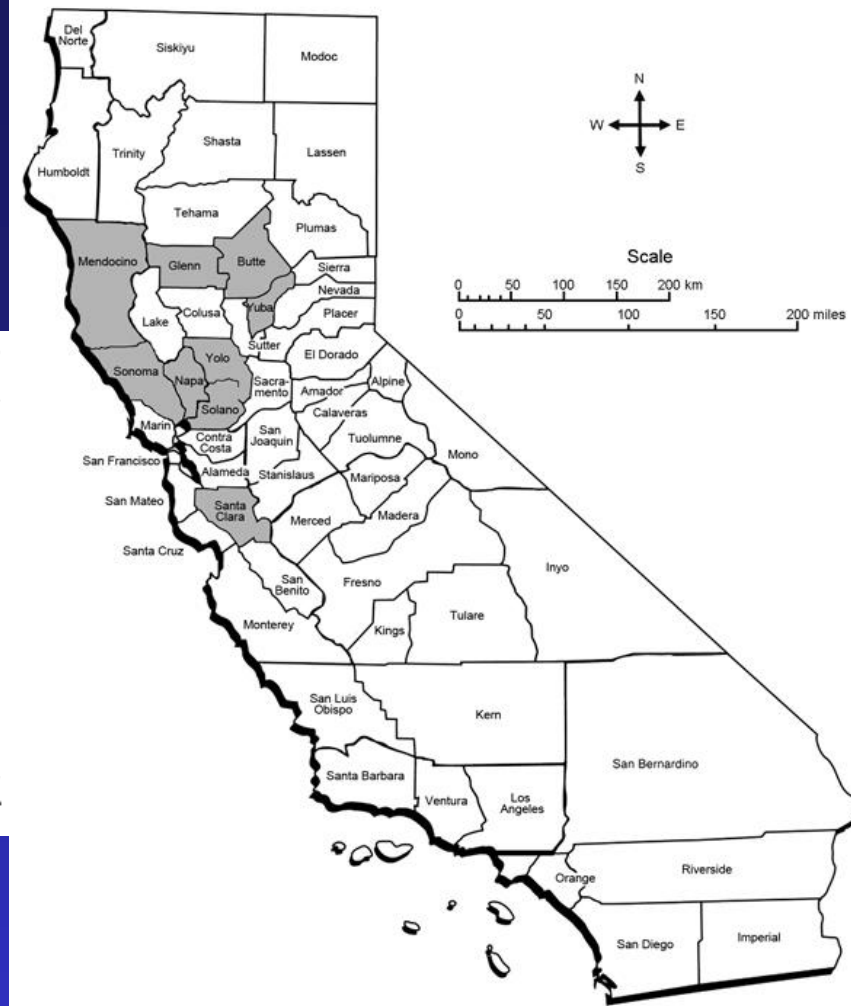
# Zoonotic *Bartonella* species in cardiac valves of healthy coyotes, California, USA.

Kehoe et al., *Emerg Infect Dis.* 2014;20:2133-6.

Table. Coyotes (*Canis latrans*) positive for *Bartonella* species by PCR, California, USA

| Coyote no. | Sex/estimated |            | County      | <i>Bartonella</i> PCR-positive tissue | <i>Bartonella</i> species by DNA sequencing          |
|------------|---------------|------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|--|
|            | age, y        | Weight, kg |             |                                       |  |
| 91         | F/1           | 11.7       | Yuba        | Aortic valve                          | <i>B. vinsonii</i> subsp. <i>berkhoffii</i> type III |
| 92         | M/1           | 13         | Yuba        | Aortic valve                          | <i>B. vinsonii</i> subsp. <i>berkhoffii</i> type I   |
| 93         | M/1           | 10.5       | Mendocino   | Aortic valve                          | <i>B. vinsonii</i> subsp. <i>berkhoffii</i> type I   |
|            |               |            |             | Mitral valve                          | <i>B. vinsonii</i> subsp. <i>berkhoffii</i> *        |
| 99         | M/<1          | 10.6       | Yuba        | Spleen                                | <i>B. rochalimae</i>                                 |
| 101        | M/1           | 12.3       | Yuba        | Mitral valve                          | <i>B. vinsonii</i> subsp. <i>berkhoffii</i> *        |
| 102        | M/<1          | 10         | Glenn       | Spleen                                | <i>B. vinsonii</i> subsp. <i>berkhoffii</i> type II  |
| 106        | F/1           | 12         | Yuba        | Aortic valve                          | <i>B. vinsonii</i> subsp. <i>berkhoffii</i> *        |
| 110        | M/<1          | 11         | Yuba        | Aortic valve, spleen                  | <i>B. vinsonii</i> subsp. <i>berkhoffii</i> type II  |
| 121        | F/<1          | 8.6        | Santa Clara | Aortic valve                          | <i>B. vinsonii</i> subsp. <i>berkhoffii</i> *        |
| 124        | F/9           | 10.4       | Santa Clara | Aortic valve                          | <i>B. vinsonii</i> subsp. <i>berkhoffii</i> *        |
| 137        | M/<1          | 10.7       | Mendocino   | Mitral valve                          | <i>B. vinsonii</i> subsp. <i>berkhoffii</i> *        |
| 146        | M/3           | 16.6       | Sonoma      | Aortic valve                          | <i>B. henselae</i>                                   |
| 152        | M/<1          | 9.7        | Napa        | Spleen                                | <i>B. vinsonii</i> subsp. <i>berkhoffii</i> type I   |
| 156        | F/<1          | 8.1        | Santa Clara | Mitral valve                          | <i>B. vinsonii</i> subsp. <i>berkhoffii</i> type II  |
| 164        | F/<1          | 10.1       | Napa        | Mitral valve                          | <i>B. vinsonii</i> subsp. <i>berkhoffii</i> *        |

\*Type not amplified.



## Molecular prevalence of *Bartonella* species in 70 coyotes from 9 counties, California, USA.

Shaded areas are counties where coyotes were trapped during the early 2000s. *Bartonella*-positive coyotes were identified from the 9 counties as follows: Yuba, 6 (33%) of 18 trapped coyotes; Santa Clara, 3/22 (14%); Mendocino, 2/11 (18%); Napa, 2/6 (33%); Sonoma, 1/5 (20%); Glenn, 1/4 (25%); Yolo, 0/1; Butte, 0/1; Solano, 0/2

Despite the absence of gross vegetative endocardial lesions, *Bartonella* DNA was amplified and sequenced from >20% of the coyotes, mainly from cardiac valves [only 4 (6%) coyotes had PCR-positive spleens, compared with 12 (17%) coyotes with PCR-positive cardiac valves]. We hypothesize that *Bartonella* in the spleen indicated early or ongoing bacteremia, whereas bartonellae in the heart valves, in their absence in the spleen, indicated valvular bacterial localization, possibly facilitating persistent infection that could evolve through time to endocarditis.



# Bacterial endocarditis and *Bartonella* endocarditis cases: Comparison in humans and dogs.

|  | Humans<br>% | Dogs<br>%  |
|--|-------------|------------|
| <u>Bacterial endocarditis</u>                  |             |            |
| Culture neg. infect. endoc.                    | 14 (88/620) | 27         |
| Aortic Valve                                   | 43-47       | 23         |
| Mitral Valve                                   | 47-57       | 67         |
| Pre-existing valvular disease                  | 30          | unlikely   |
| <u><i>Bartonella</i> positive endocarditis</u> |             |            |
| Aortic   | 88 (29/33)  | 71.4 (5/7) |
| Mitral   | 12 ( 4/33)  | 14.3 (1/7) |
| Mixed  | 6 ( 2/33)   | 14.3 (1/7) |
| Pre-existing valvular disease                  | 53 ( 8/15)  | unlikely   |

# Serology & PCR results from 61 *Bartonella*-infected dogs

(blood & other fluid samples tested by BAPGM enrichment culture)

---

Between 2003 and 2009, 924 samples from 663 sick dogs submitted to North Carolina State University, College of Veterinary Medicine for diagnostic testing with the *Bartonella*  $\alpha$ -Proteobacteria growth medium (BAPGM) platform .

61 (9.2%) of 663 dogs were culture positive or had *Bartonella* DNA detected by PCR.

BAPGM culture was required for PCR detection in 32 (52.5%) cases

# Serology & PCR results from 61 *Bartonella*-infected dogs

(blood & other fluid samples tested by BAPGM enrichment culture)

## *Bartonella* IFA (N +/N tested)

## *Bartonella* PCR (N+ /N Tested)

| <i>Bart.</i> species<br>(N, %)         | <i>B. henselae</i>     | <i>B.v. berkhoffii</i> | BAPGM culture          | Plate Isolate after BAPGM culture | BAPGM and plate culture combined | Only detected by BAPGM |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| <i>B.h.</i> , 30 (49%)                 | 7/19<br>(37%)          | 4/17<br>(24%)          | 14/30<br>(47%)         | 5/30<br>(17%)                     | 19/30<br>(63%)                   | 15/30<br>(50%)         |
| <i>B.v.b.</i> , 17 (28%)               | 4/10<br>(40%)          | 4/10<br>(40%)          | 6/17<br>(35%)          | 6/17<br>(35%)                     | 10/17<br>(59%)                   | 9/17<br>(53%)          |
| <i>B.h.</i> , <i>B.v.b.</i> , 7 (11%)  | 0/2                    | 0/2                    | 6/7<br>(86%)           | 3/7<br>(43%)                      | 6/7<br>(86%)                     | 5/7<br>(71%)           |
| <i>B.k.</i> , 2 (3 %)                  | NP                     | NP                     | 1/2                    | 0/2                               | 1/2                              | 1/2                    |
| <i>B.v.-l.</i> , 2 (3%)                | 0/1                    | NP                     | 0/2                    | 2/2                               | 2/2                              | 2/2                    |
| <i>B. bovis</i> , 1 (1.6%)             | NP                     | NP                     | 0/1                    | 0/1                               | 0/1                              | 0/1                    |
| <i>B.v.b.</i> , <i>B.k.</i> , 1 (1.6%) | NP                     | NP                     | 1/1                    | 0/1                               | 1/1                              | 0/1                    |
| <i>B.v.b.</i> , <i>B.vl</i> , 1 (1.6%) | 0/1                    | 0/1                    | 1/1                    | 0/1                               | 1/1                              | 0/1                    |
| <b>Total, 61<br/>(100%)</b>            | <b>11/33<br/>(33%)</b> | <b>8/30<br/>(27%)</b>  | <b>29/61<br/>(48%)</b> | <b>16/61<br/>(26%)</b>            | <b>40/61<br/>(66%)</b>           | <b>32/61<br/>(53%)</b> |

BAPGM, Bartonella α-Proteobacteria growth medium; *B. bovis*, *Bartonella bovis*; *B.h.*, *Bartonella henselae*; *B.k.*, *Bartonella koehlerae*; *B.v.b.*, *Bartonella vinsonii* subsp. *berkhoffii*; *B.v.-l.*, *Bartonella volans*-like; IFA, immunofluorescent antibody assays.

# Bartonella species associated with endocarditis in domestic animals

| Bartonella sp.               | Animal species (location) | Isolation/PCR/serology |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| <i>B. quintana</i> (Z)       | Dogs (USA, New Zeal.)     | PCR                    |
| <i>B. clarridgeiae</i> (Z?)  | Dogs (USA, Brazil)        | Isolation/PCR          |
| <i>B. rochalimae</i> (Z)     | Dogs (USA, Spain)         | PCR/Isolation          |
| <i>B. vinsonii</i>           | Dogs (USA)                | Isolation/PCR          |
| <i>berkhoffii</i> (Z) type 1 | Dogs (USA)                | Isolation/PCR          |
| type 2                       | Dogs (USA)                | PCR                    |
| type 3                       | Dogs (Canada, Col.)       | Isolation              |
| type 4                       | Dog (USA: Calif.)         | PCR                    |
| <i>B. washoensis</i> (Z)     | Dog (Israel, Spain)       | Isolation              |
| <i>B. koehlerae</i> (Z)      | Dog (USA, Army)           | PCR                    |
| <i>B. elizabethae</i> (Z)    | Cats (USA, Australia)     | Isolation,             |
| <i>B. henselae</i> (Z)       | Dog (Netherlands)         | PCR (dog, NCSU),       |
|                              | (USA)                     | serol. (dogs, NCSU)    |
| <i>B. bovis</i>              | Cows (France)             | PCR                    |

# Treatment of *Bartonella rochalimae* endocarditis in dogs

Doxycycline (Vibramycin, Pfizer): 6.6 mg/kg PO in the mornings and 3.3 mg/kg in the evenings/ or 5.3 mg/kg twice daily  
and

Enrofloxacin (Baytril, Bayer) 5.7 mg/kg PO once a day [up to 21 months) or 9.7 mg/kg once daily.

## Other treatment option:

Azithromycin (Zithromax, Pfizer): 8 mg/kg PO every 24 hours for 7 days and then every 48 hours + Doxycycline (Vibramycin, Pfizer) 8 mg/kg PO every 12 hours.



# Vegetative endocarditis associated with natural *Bartonella* infection in domestic cats.

Malik et al., 1999 J. Fel. Med. Surg.. 1:171-180.

Between 1990 and 1997, vegetative endocarditis diagnosed in six neutered cats aged between 3 and 9 years.

Diagnosis made using echocardiography (5 cases) or at necropsy (1 case).

| Case | Age | Sex | Breed     | Valve Affected   | Culture/Histology      |
|------|-----|-----|-----------|------------------|------------------------|
| A    | 3   | FN  | DSH       | aortic, mitral   | ND                     |
| B    | 9   | FN  | DSH       | aortic           | <i>Bartonella</i> spp. |
| C    | 6   | MN  | Persian   | aortic, mitral   | <i>Bartonella</i> spp. |
| D    | 8   | MN  | DSH       | aortic, ? Mitral | ND                     |
| E    | 6   | MN  | DSH       | mitral, aortic   | Streptococcus          |
| F    | 6   | FN  | Tonkinese | tricuspid        | Gram + cocci           |

No confirmation of *Bartonella* by PCR, only based on cultural aspect

# *Bartonella* endocarditis in cats

## Fatal Case of Endocarditis Associated with *Bartonella henselae* Type I Infection in a Domestic Cat

Bruno B. Chomel,<sup>1\*</sup> Aaron C. Wey,<sup>2†</sup> Rickie W. Kasten,<sup>1</sup> Brian A. Stacy,<sup>3</sup> and Philippe Labelle<sup>3</sup>

*Department of Population Health and Reproduction<sup>1</sup> and Department of Pathology, Microbiology and Immunology, Veterinary Medicine Teaching Hospital,<sup>3</sup> School of Veterinary Medicine, University of California, Davis, California 95616, and Veterinary Centers of America, Emergency Animal Hospital & Referral Center, San Diego, California 92108<sup>2</sup>*

Received 3 March 2003/Returned for modification 21 June 2003/Accepted 11 August 2003

**We report the first feline case of *Bartonella henselae* endocarditis. Despite negative blood cultures, the cat had high *Bartonella* antibody titers and *B. henselae* type I DNA was detected in the damaged aortic valve. Microscopic examination of the valve revealed endocarditis with small silver positive coccoid structures in endothelial cells.**

Ann N Y Acad Sci. 2009 May;1166:120-6. doi: 10.1111/j.1749-6632.2009.04523.x.

*Bartonella* endocarditis: a pathology shared by animal reservoirs and patients.

Chomel BB<sup>et al</sup> Kasten RW, Williams C, Wey AC, Henn JB, Maggi R, Carrasco S, Mazet J, Boulouis HJ, Maillard R, Breitschwerdt EB.

*Bartonellae* were first recognized to cause endocarditis in humans in 1993 when cases caused by *Bartonella quintana*, *B. elizabethae*, and *B. henselae* were reported..

“A few *Bartonella* endocarditis cases, including *B. henselae*, have been reported in cats in the USA and Australia. The second case of *B. henselae* type Houston I identified in the USA is presented. “



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Veterinary Microbiology

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/vetmic](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/vetmic)



## Experimental infection of dogs with various *Bartonella* species or subspecies isolated from their natural reservoir



Bruno B. Chomel<sup>a,\*</sup>, Richard W. Ermel<sup>b</sup>, Rickie W. Kasten<sup>a</sup>, Jennifer B. Henn<sup>c</sup>,  
Drew A. Fleischman<sup>a</sup>, Chao-Chin Chang<sup>d</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Department of Population Health and Reproduction, School of Veterinary Medicine, University of California, Davis, CA 95616, USA

<sup>b</sup> Division of Comparative Medicine, Animal Resources Center, Beckman Research Institute City of Hope, 1500 East Duarte Road, Duarte, CA 91010-3000, USA

<sup>c</sup> Napa County Health and Human Services, Napa, CA, USA

<sup>d</sup> Graduate Institute of Microbiology and Public Health, National Chung Hsing University, Taichung 402, Taiwan

### ARTICLE INFO

#### Article history:

Received 3 September 2013

Received in revised form 30 October 2013

Accepted 2 November 2013

#### Keywords:

*Bartonella*

Dogs

Experimental infection

Zoonosis

### ABSTRACT

Dogs can be infected by a wide variety of *Bartonella* species. However, limited data is available on experimental infection of dogs with *Bartonella* strains isolated from domestic animals or wildlife. We report the inoculation of six dogs with *Bartonella henselae* (feline strain 94022, 16S rRNA type II) in three sets of two dogs, each receiving a different inoculum dose), four dogs inoculated with *B. vinsonii* subsp. *berkhoffii* type I (ATCC strain, one mongrel dog) or type II (coyote strain, two beagles and one mongrel) and *B. rochalimae* (coyote strain, two beagles). None of the dogs inoculated with *B. henselae* became bacteremic, as detected by classical blood culture. However, several dogs developed severe necrotic lesions at the inoculation site and all six dogs seroconverted within one to two weeks. All dogs inoculated with the *B. v. berkhoffii* and *B. rochalimae* strains became bacteremic at levels comparable to previous experimental infections with either a dog isolate or a human isolate. Our data support that dogs are likely accidental hosts for *B. henselae*, just like humans, and are efficient reservoirs for both *B. v. berkhoffii* and *B. rochalimae*.

All dogs inoculated with the *B. v. berkhoffii* and *B. rochalimae* strains became bacteremic at levels comparable to previous experimental infections with either a dog isolate or a human isolate.

Our data support that dogs are likely accidental hosts for *B. henselae*, just like humans, and are efficient reservoirs for both *B. v. berkhoffii* and *B. rochalimae*

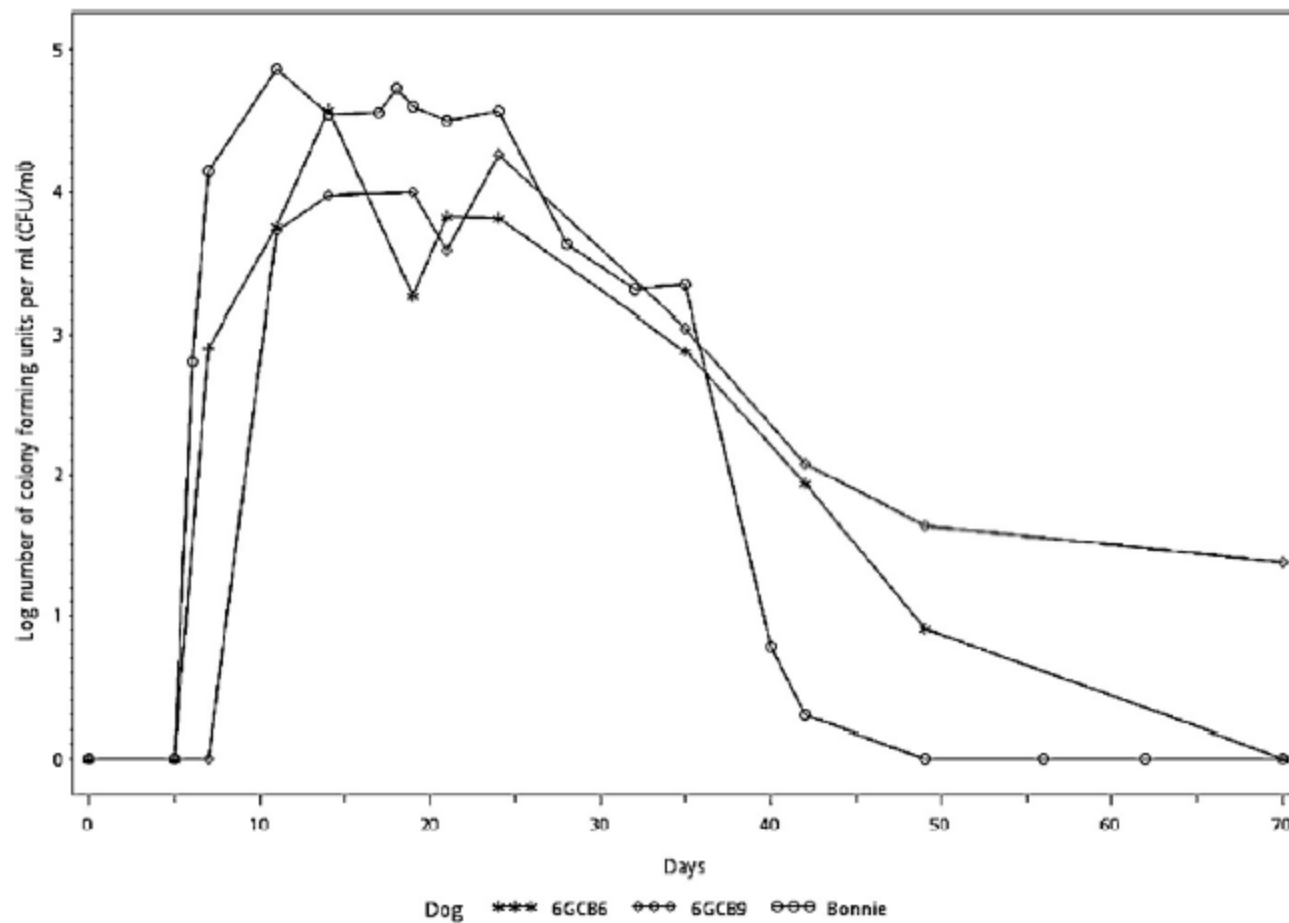


Fig. 2. *Bartonella vinsonii* subsp. *berkhoffii* type II (coyote strain) bacteremia in three dogs inoculated by intradermal route.

Conditions caused by *Bartonella henselae* in humans, cats and dogs, and by *B. vinsonii berkhoffii* in dogs.

| Conditions  | Humans | Cats | Dogs |
|---|--------|------|------|
| Chronic bacteremia                                      | +      | ++   | +    |
| Lymphadenitis, granulomatous rhinitis and lymphadenitis | ++     | +    | ++   |
| Bacillary angiomatosis/peliosis                         | ++     | -    | +    |
| Endo/Myocarditis, Arrhythmia                            | ++     | +    | ++   |
| Prolonged fever   | +      | -    | +/-  |
| Lethargy, weight loss, anorexia                         | +      | +/-  | +    |
| Neurological symptoms                                   | ++     | +/-  | +    |
| Encephalitis  | +      | ?    | +/-  |
| Arthritis, joint pain, Lameness                         | +      | ?    | +    |
| Glomerulonephritis                                      | +      | +/-  | ?    |
| Uveitis and ocular lesions                              | +      | +    | +    |
| Reproductive disorders                                  | ? +/-  | +    | ?    |



# Endocarditis in Cattle Caused by *Bartonella bovis*

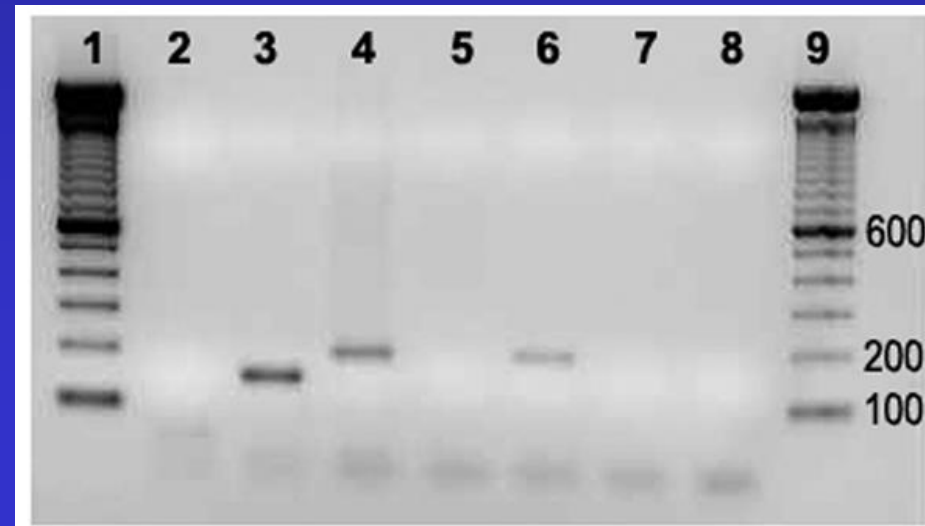
Maillard et al., *Emerg. Infect. Dis.* 2007; 13:1383-1385.

This study aimed to determine the role of *Bartonella* as an endocarditis agent in cattle. *Bartonella bovis* was identified by PCR, gene sequences analysis, and specific internal transcribed spacer (ITS) amplicon product size in two bovine endocarditis cases with high antibody titers, which demonstrates that *B. bovis* is a pathogen for cattle.



PCR amplification of 16S–23S ITS on vegetative and normal-appearing valves of cows A and B.

1, Molecular weight marker; 2, negative control;  
3, *Bartonella quintana*; 4, *B. bovis*;  
5 and 6, normal and vegetative valves (Cow A);  
7 and 8, normal and vegetative valves (Cow B);  
9, molecular weight marker.

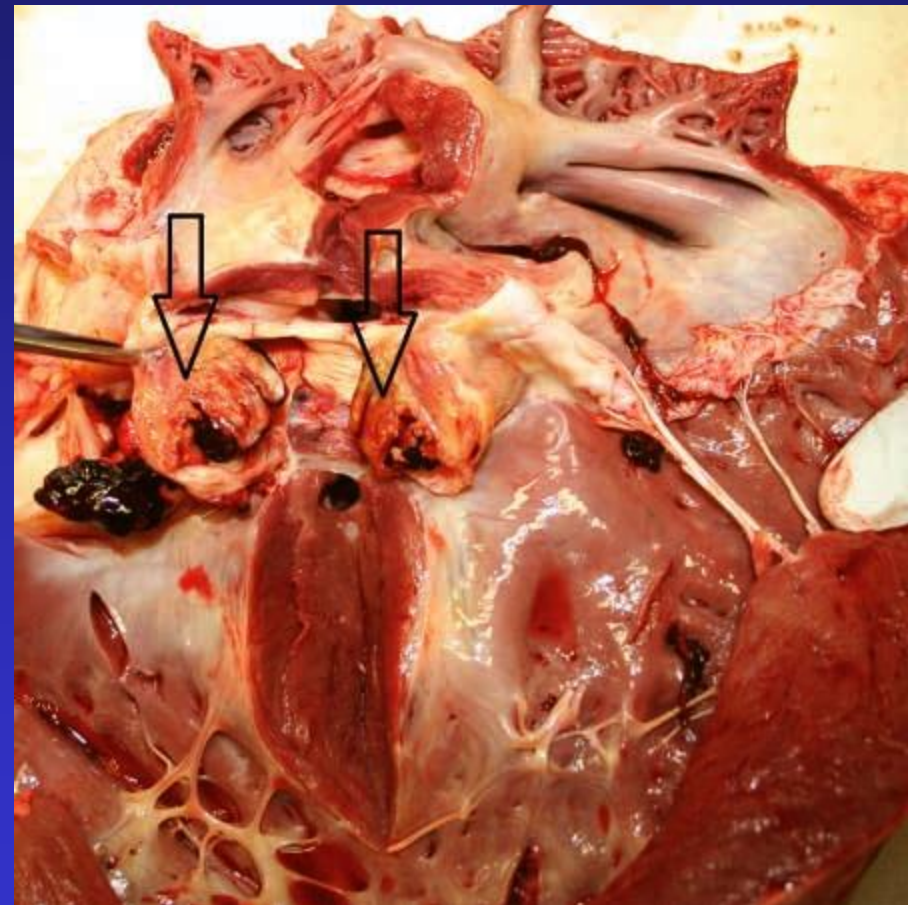


# Endocarditis in Angus Cow Caused by *Bartonella bovis*

Erol et al., J. Vet. Diagn Invest. 2013;25(2):288-290.

A 7-year-old pregnant Angus cow was found dead in the field. At necropsy, the aortic valve was expanded by moderate fibrous connective tissue and acidophilic coagulum containing multifocal marked bacteria, mineral, neutrophils, and red blood cells.

Amplicons were sequenced, and the *gltA*, *ribC*, *ssrA*, and 16S ribosomal RNA gene sequences were found to have 100% homology to *Bartonella bovis*, whereas the *ftsZ* and *rpoB* sequences showed 99.9% and 99.6% homology, respectively, to the type strain of *B. bovis*.



Valvular endocarditis in an Angus cow. hemorrhage present in the aortic valve cusp (arrows).

# Endocarditis caused by *Bartonella*, *Brucella* and *Coxiella* in humans.

|                    | <i>Bartonella</i> sp.    | <i>Brucella</i> sp.   | <i>Coxiella burnetii</i>                    |
|--------------------|--------------------------|---|---|
| Frequency (Europe) | 3-4%<br>>90% B.q.; B. h. | 1-2% (6% Greece)<br>(0.3-0.6% of all <i>Brucella</i> cases) | 3-5%<br>(8.7-11% worldwide)                 |
| Localization       | aortic, mitral           | aortic (85%)  | aortic, mitral                              |
| Acute or Chronic   | Chronic                  | Acute/Chronic   | Chronic                                     |
| Sex                | Male (60-85%)            | Male  | Male (2/3)                                  |
| Antibody titer     | High to very High        | (High) (culture+)   | High to very high                           |
| Death              | 20%                      | 80%   | <30%?<br>Up to 60%<br>(before Rx available) |



# Bartonella in Sea Otters

## Northern Sea otters

(*Enhydra lutris kenyoni*).

(Carrasco et al., Vet Microbiol. 2014;170:325-34).

(Carrasco et al., Vector Borne Zoonotic Dis. 2014;14(12):831-7).

Bartonella DNA in a total of 23 (46%) of 50 Alaskan sea otters and 3 (10%) of 30 California sea otters

Positive with 3 different sets of primers

(Sequencing done at UCD and NCSU)

Closest to DNA from a northern American river otter, *B. volans* and *B. washoensis* and some close to *B. henselae*

## Seroprevalence:

Alaska: 34% (15/44) Live captured –  
50% (25/50) stranded

(*B. washoensis* - *B. volans*/*B. henselae*)

California: 15.5% (25/161) stranded







**Questions ?**

