



August 2021

Policy Decision 21-04

National approach to *Ehrlichia canis* (*E. canis*) management

Animal Health Committee

Recommendations

- 1) Nationally co-ordinated public information campaign promoting:
 - a) Awareness of *E. canis* and management of the vector
 - b) Guidelines for dog owners and breeders with dogs travelling or moving into/through areas where *E. canis* is known or likely to be active or where the vector is known to be present
 - c) Guidelines (promoted as protective biosecurity measures) for dog owners, breeders and rehoming organisations with dogs travelling or moving out of areas where *E. canis* is known or likely to be active to areas where *E. canis* is not established

Messaging should be simple and in language appropriate to meet stakeholder communication needs.

- 2) National guidelines for veterinarians investigating and managing cases of *E. canis*, including information for dog owners on long-term management of *E. canis*.

Additional recommendations where 'infection with *E. canis*' is listed as a nationally notifiable disease or notifiable under jurisdictional legislation:

- a) Passive surveillance program in areas where *E. canis* is not known to be active
- b) Active exclusion testing for suspect cases in areas where *E. canis* is not active or known to be active
- c) National data management and reporting for *E. canis* surveillance through NAHIS.

References

- 1) AHC41_OOS04_PAPER_National Approach to *E. canis* Management

More information

Learn more about the Animal Health Committee.

Email ahc@agriculture.gov.au

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Australia and their continuing connection to land and sea, waters, environment and community. We pay our respects to the Traditional Custodians of the lands we live and work on, their culture, and their Elders past and present.

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