



LABORATORY REPORT

Submission No: S2025/01_0287

Sender:	Jaco Pieterse 0836788460	Owner:	- C Conrad
Clinic or Company:	Cape of Good Hope SPCA	Company:	-
PO Box or Street:	PO Box 3; C/O 1st street & 1st Avenue	Farm Name (GPS):	- (-,-)
Town, postal code:	Plumstead; Grassy Park, 7801; 8000	PO Box or Street:	24 Shrike Crescent, -
Contact number(s):	0217004158; 0217004159, -	Town, postal code:	Seawinds, 8001
Email:	inspmanager@spca-ct.co.za; vet@spca-ct.co.za	Contact number(s):	-; -
		Email:	-

Sender Reference: -

State Vet Area: SV Boland

Purpose of sampling: Diagnostic

SPECIMEN INFORMATION

Species: Canine - Dog

Date & Time Received: 2025-01-24 02:55pm

REPORT / VERSLAG

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REPORT / VERSLAG

POST MORTEM REPORT

Date: 24th January 2025

Submission number: S2025/01_0287

Animal identification: One male intact 3 month old black canine - No ID.

History: "The owner of the animal called the SPCA, to request that we collect her dog, on 20 January 2025 saying that her dog was bitten in the neck last week and started vomiting on 20 January 2025. When the inspector got to the property to collect the dog, the family member (Claudette Conrad) did not want to sign the dog over to the SPCA. The inspector issued a 24 hour Warning to the owner for adequate veterinary treatment. When he returned to the property, he was informed by Claudette that the dog has died and they buried it already. Claudette dug up the body upon request of the inspector for PM purposes as the SPCA is looking to pursue a cruelty case"

Samples received and tests requested: One male intact 3 month old black canine for post mortem examination.

PM changes: Moderate.

General changes:

White mucous membranes, suspicious of a severe anaemia (blood smear for confirmation not possible due to state of autolysis).

Body condition score: 2.0/5.0, some fat reserves present.

State of dehydration is unclear (but suspected to be moderate), due to state of autolysis and burial of the carcass.

Specific changes:

Gastrointestinal tract: Stomach was empty. Moderate enteritis observed, along with various round worms throughout the lumen of the small intestine.

Thorax: Moderate thymic atrophy.

Respiratory tract: Moderate pulmonary oedema and congestion with a suspected moderate interstitial pneumonia.

Skin: Mild dags observed, indicative of diarrhoea.

Incidental finding:

Skin: Focal circular open wound, about 1.0 cm diameter was observed along the right neck, with mild haemorrhage subcutaneously. This wound did not extend further than the skin layer and subcutaneous tissue. Some crusting was observed along the wound surface, holding the peripheral edges together. Animal was covered in sand.

Samples taken at necropsy: An organ pool of samples were collected for histology and bacteriology as well as a faecal sample for parasitology.

RESULTS:

Parasitology:

No parasitic ova or oocysts observed.

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Histopathology:

Microscopic findings correlated with macroscopic findings. Moderate congestion was observed throughout all organs evaluated. Mild to advanced autolysis with associated putrefaction (post mortem bacteria) made meaningful examination difficult, particularly segments of the gastrointestinal tract.

Thymus: Mild to moderate, acute, diffuse thymic atrophy with scattered associated haemorrhages.

Gastrointestinal tract: Various intestinal segments were too severely autolysed for thorough examination. Segmental enteric necrosis and bacterial overgrowth within the lumen is suspected but cannot be confirmed due to autolysis.

Spleen: Mild lymphoid depletion.

Bone marrow: Moderate, acute, diffuse atrophy. Severe, diffuse, congestion with poor cell cellularity.

Lymph nodes: Sinuses were distended with drained blood and some erythrophagocytosis.

Kidneys: Largely within normal limits except for scattered immature glomeruli and mild mineral deposits observed throughout the medullary tubules (indicative of dehydration).

Lungs: Severe, acute, diffuse pulmonary congestion and partial atelectasis and mild haemorrhages as well as scattered neutrophils and macrophages observed throughout the alveoli.

Skin: Moderate suspected bacterial dermatitis, secondary to sharp force traumatic injury.

No histomorphologically significant lesions observed throughout the liver, adrenal glands, bladder, heart and thyroid.

Bacteriology:

Spleen: No growth.

Small intestine:

- *E. coli* (heavy growth) (mixed growth)
- *Enterococcus* sp. (heavy growth) (mixed growth)
- *Clostridium* sp. (heavy growth) (mixed growth)

COMMENTS/DIAGNOSIS:

The final diagnosis for this case is currently unclear as a result of the advanced state of autolysis, particularly of the gastrointestinal tract (post burial). The suspected diagnosis and cause of death remains parvovirus infection with associated dehydration (due to the macroscopic and minimal microscopic findings observable), which can only be confirmed with additional testing. Although additional testing is possible via immunohistochemistry at an additional cost of about R500, unfortunately the final results may not be reliable due to the state of autolysis of the samples needed for examination. Please do let me know should you choose to continue with additional testing, despite the risk of possible unreliable results. Although a minor wound was observed along the right hand side of the neck of this animal with associated mild suspected bacterial dermatitis, it was not the cause of death as the wound was not severe enough to cause death. Although no worm eggs were observed in the faecal sample evaluated, as the animal had diarrhoea, any possible eggs present may have been missed but adult round worms were observed in abundance throughout the small intestinal content. The worm burden observed would've also contributed to the poor body condition observed.

Reference: Maxie, M.G. (ed.), 2016, *JUBB, KENNEDY AND PALMER'S PATHOLOGY OF DOMESTIC ANIMALS*, 6th edn., Elsevier, St. Louis, Missouri.

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Thank you for submitting these samples to the Western Cape Provincial Veterinary Laboratory. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any queries.

State Veterinarian

Name **DR. J. ANTHONY**

Signature

DEPT. VAN LANDBOU: WESKAAP
PROVINSIALE VETERINERE LABORATORIUM PRIVAATSAK X5020, STELLENBOSCH, 7599
19 FEB 2025
Report date PRIVATE BAG X5020, STELLENBOSCH, 7599 PROVINCIAL VETERINARY LABORATORY
DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE: WESTERN CAPE

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State Vet Area: SV Boland

Purpose of sampling: Diagnostic

SPECIMEN INFORMATION

Species: Canine - Dog
Date & Time Received: 2025/01/24 02:55pm
Sampling date (if indicated): 2025/01/21
Specimen Type **Quantity** **Test(s) Required**
Tissue / Organs, in formalin 1 Haematoxylin and Eosin (H&E) Staining Test (P-HIST-M-006)

Specimen Type: Tissue / Organs, in formalin

Test: Haematoxylin and Eosin (H&E) Staining Test

Staining date 03-02-2025
Histopathology service requested Processing, staining and examination (Refer to attached report for histopathology findings)
Comments No additional comments

NOTE: Opinions and interpretations expressed herein are outside the scope of SANAS accreditation.

Thank you for submitting these samples to the Western Cape Provincial Veterinary Laboratory. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any queries.

Authorised signatory

EC de Mon

Initial and surname

Signature

3/2/2025

Report Date

State Veterinarian

DR T. ANTHONY

Initial and surname

Signature

DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE: WESTERN CAPE
PROVINCIALE VETERINÊRE LABORATORIUM
PRIVAATSAKKE
STELLENBOSCH

Date

03 FEB 2025

PRIVATE BAG 1111, STELLENBOSCH
PROVINCIAL VETERINARY LABORATORY
DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE: WESTERN CAPE

