

CASE DEFINITION

To properly standardize criteria for identification and management of cases, several case definitions have been developed. Based on the current knowledge and available diagnostic procedures, the further investigations are organised in a separate table (adapted from doi: <u>10.1080/22221751.2023.2249126</u>).

- A dog with a confirmed *B. canis* infection Dogs with compatible clinical symptoms and at least positive serology or PCR may be considered as infected, beyond reasonable doubt, especially if epidemiological links with infected dogs are highlighted. Various other situations are observed, in which the probability of infection depends on results and epidemiological situation – table.
- A dog with a suspected or probable *B. canis* infection *B. canis* has not been confirmed but some risk factors are present. The additional uncertainty about the true infection status creates additional management issues.
- **B. canis positive kennel** at least one confirmed infected dog (strain isolation or PCR positive) or at least two reproductively active animals with confirmed serological positive response.
- B. canis uninfected dog An animal without any clinical symptoms evocative of B. canis caused brucellosis and no epidemiological contact with infected cases. However, dogs with one indirect diagnostic or PCR positive result, without repetition cannot be considered as negative, but animals with similar clinical symptoms or in epidemiological contact with infection sources, but no positive diagnostic tests should be regarded as B. canis uninfected.
- **B. canis free kennel** Only a kennel in which all animals have been tested negative on B. canis in repeated diagnostic procedures as recommended by competent local authorities.





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Taken from: Djokic *et al.*, 2023. doi: <u>10.1080/22221751.2023.2249126</u>