

Original Research Article

INVESTIGATION OF CANINE PARVOVIRUS INFECTION IN KHARTOUM STATE, SUDAN

ABSTRACT:

The study was extended for two years and covered different seasons of the years 2020, 2021 and 2022. Dogs in different localities of Khartoum State were investigated for presence of canine Parvovirus infection. A total of 599 dogs from different breeds and ages were investigated for the presence of the disease. According to the results of canine Parvovirus Ag Rapid Kit for the detection of canine Parvovirus, the prevalence of canine Parvovirus in Khartoum State was 7%. Male and female dogs were susceptible for Parvovirus infection. Young ages were more susceptible for the infection. Dogs were more susceptible for the infection with Parvovirus in winter season. Local and German shepherd breeds were more susceptible for the infection with Parvovirus. Most cases of Parvovirus were treatable. This is the first study concerning investigation of Canine Parvovirus infection in Khartoum State. The canine parvovirus infection is more likely to occur at an early stage of life; therefore, it is recommended for owners of puppies less than 16 weeks to avoid contact with dogs at high risk for canine parvovirus infection or during recovery stage. Vaccination and Deworming programs against different diseases are recommended for dogs.

Key words: Canine; Khartoum State; Parvovirus; Sudan; Viral infection

1. INTRODUCTION:

Canine parvovirus (CPV) is a highly contagious virus that can affect all dogs, but unvaccinated dogs and puppies younger than four months old are the most at risk. Dogs that are ill from canine parvovirus infection are often said to have "parvo". The virus is a small belonging to the Parvoviridae family and Parvovirus genus under the Parvovirinae sub family [1]. A species jump which may have involved intermediate passage in other carnivores such as mink or raccoons [2]. CPV-2 possesses a single-stranded DNA genome of about 5,200 nucleotides in length, enclosed in a 26-nm-diameter icosahedral

capsid made up of a combination of two proteins, VP1 and VP2 [3] [4]. CPV infection became Panzootic since 1980 and caused severe and fatal illness in many dogs [5]. It has high morbidity and mortality in dogs being more severe in pups. CPV have undergone a series of evolutionary selections in nature, resulting in global distribution of new variants that have replaced the original CPV-2. Currently, the three major antigenic variants of CPV-2 which are 2a, 2b and 2c are known to be distributed among the dog population worldwide [6]. During acute phase of infection dogs may excrete virion particles up to 10⁹/gram of feces [7]. Moreover, CPV-2 virion particles are very stable in environment which facilitates its transmission through fecal-oral route. In present study, fecal samples diagnosed positive for CPV-2 were passaged in concanavalin A (Con A) activated peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMC) of dog [8]. CPV-2c, was discovered in Italy in 2000 [9], displaying an exceptional ability to rapidly spread through the canine population in that country [6], as well as in other European countries [10], Asia [11] and America [1] [12] [13]. Although the first reports seemed to account for a low pathogenicity of CPV-c, experimental data and field observations now indicate a more severe clinical course and higher mortality rates associated with CPV-2c infection, as well as its ability to infect and cause disease in adult dogs, even if repeatedly vaccinated [14].

This study was aiming at investigating Canine Parvovirus infection in Khartoum State, Sudan.

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS:

2.1. Area of the study:

The study was conducted in Khartoum State during the years 2020, 2021 and 2022.

2.2. Samples:

2.2.1. Source of samples:

In this study which lasted for 2 years, 599 dogs of different ages and breeds were investigated for presence of Canine Parvovirus infection. Faecal samples were collected during this investigation from all animals.

2.2.2. Breeds of dogs:

The investigated dogs were belonged to German shepherd, Local, Lulu, cross, Perro de Presa Canario, Rottweiler, Royal black, Rood dog, Golden Retriever, Malinois, Griffon, Caucasian, Alabi, American bulldog, Saluki, Balboa and Husky breeds of dogs.

2.2.3. Ages of dogs:

The age of the investigated dogs was ranged between 40 days and 20 months.

2.2.4. Sampling Procedure:

A total of 599 Faecal samples were collected from 599 dogs in different Localities of Khartoum State. Faecal samples were collected directly from rectums of the dogs by using swabs. Faecal samples were transported in iceboxes to the Veterinary Laboratory in college of Veterinary Medicine University of Bahri.

2.3. Detection of Canine Parvovirus (CPV):

2.3.1. VDRG® CPV Rapid kit for detection of Canine Parvovirus (MEDIAN DIAGNOSTIC, Korea) [15].

2.3.1.1. Components:

1. CPV Ag Rapid device
2. Sample dilution buffer for CPV Ag (P).
3. Test tube.
4. Sample dilution buffer for CPV Ag (G).
5. Swap.
6. Dropper.

2.3.1.2. Test Procedure:

1. Fecal samples were collected from dogs' rectums using the sample collection swabs.
2. Sample were put into the container that contained sample dilution buffer and the solution was stirred well with a swab in order to extract the virus from the fecal sample thoroughly.
3. The tube was placed upright until the large particles went down (20sec).
4. The supernatant of sample solution was taken using dropper, and then 4 drops were added into the sample hole on the test device.
5. Results were read after 10 minutes (Figure 1).

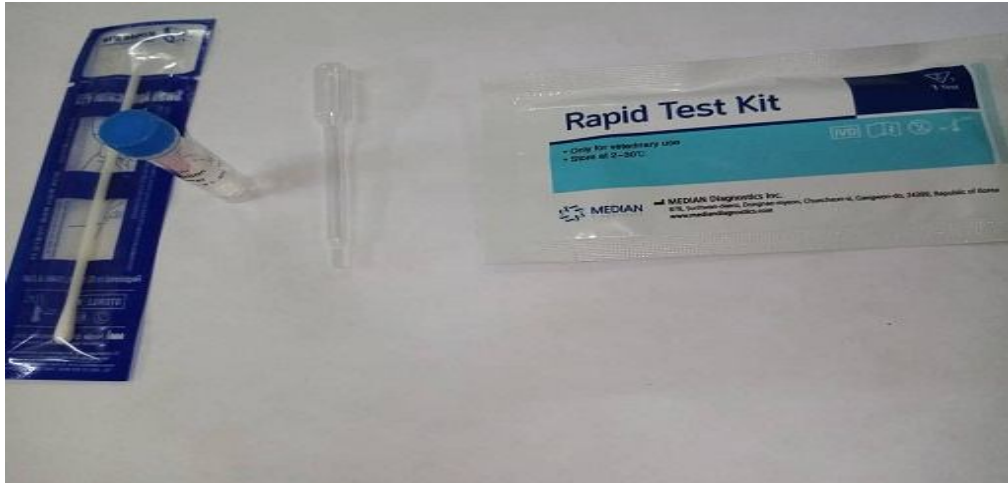


Fig. (1): Rapid Test Kit for detection of Canine Parvovirus (CPV).

3. RESULTS:

3.1. Prevalence of Canine Parvovirus in Khartoum State:

Among 599 dogs of different breed, sex and age, 42 (7.0%) were positive for CPV test. Male dogs represented 3.8% and females represented 3.2% of the positively tested dogs. The age of the infected dogs ranged in between 40 days and 13 months (Table 1, Figures 2, 3 and 4).

3.1.1. Prevalence of Canine Parvovirus in autumn:

The prevalence of Canine parvovirus during the autumn was 2.5%. Male dogs represented 1.5% and females represented 1.0% of the positively tested dogs (Table 2).

3.1.2. Prevalence of Canine Parvovirus in winter:

The prevalence of Canine parvovirus during the winter was 8.0%. Male dogs represented 3.5% and females represented 4.5% of the positively tested dogs (Table 3).

3.1.3. Prevalence of Canine Parvovirus in summer:

The prevalence of Canine parvovirus during the summer was 3.8%. Male dogs represented 2.5% and females represented 1.3% of the positively tested dogs (Table 4).

3.1.4. Prevalence of Canine Parvovirus in different dog's breeds:

Among 42 dogs of different breeds, the prevalence of Canine Parvovirus was 33.3% in local, 31.0% in German shepherd, 14.2% in cross, 9.5% in Lulu, 2.4% in Perro de Presa Canario, Caucasian, Alabi, American bulldog and Balboa breeds (Figure 5).

3.1.5. Treatment trial for Canine Parvovirus cases:

Eighty one percent of Canine Parvovirus cases respond for the treatment trials (Figure 6).

Table (1): Prevalence of Canine Parvovirus infection in Khartoum State.

Breed	Infected Male	Healthy Male	Infected Female	Healthy Female	Total
German shepherd	6	159	7	174	346
Local	7	39	7	38	91
Lulu	2	16	2	25	45
Cross	4	19	2	17	42
Perro de Presa Canario	1	9	0	9	19
Rottweiler	0	5	0	6	11
Royal black	0	7	0	1	8
Rood dog	0	0	0	7	7
Golden Retriever	0	1	0	5	6
Malinois	0	4	0	2	6
Griffon	0	4	0	1	5
Caucasian	1	0	0	3	4
Alabi	0	1	0	2	3
American bulldog	1	0	1	0	2
Saluki	0	2	0	0	2
Balboa	0	1	0	0	1
Husky	1	0	0	0	1
Total	23 (3.8%)	267 (44.6%)	19 (3.2%)	290 (48.4%)	599 (100%)

Table (2): Prevalence of Canine Parvovirus infection in Khartoum State in autumn.

Breed	Infected Male	Healthy Male	Infected Female	Healthy Female	Total
German shepherd	2	63	0	70	135
Local	1	14	1	10	26
Lulu	1	4	1	3	9
Rottweiler	0	4	0	5	9
Saluki	0	4	0	5	6
Cross	0	4	0	2	6
Griffon	0	4	0	0	4
Malinois	0	3	0	1	4
Alabi	0	1	0	2	3
Perro de Presa Canario	0	0	0	2	2
Caucasian	0	1	0	1	2
Balboa	1	0	0	0	1
American bulldog	0	0	1	0	1
Total	4	102	3	101	208

(1.5%) (49.0%) (1.0%) (48.5%) (100%)

Table (3): Prevalence of Canine Parvovirus infection in Khartoum State in winter.

Breed	Infected Male	Healthy Male	Infected Female	Healthy Female	Total
German shepherd	4	61	6	62	133
Local	0	17	0	11	28
Cross	3	6	2	6	17
Lulu	0	4	1	5	10
Rood dog	0	0	0	6	6
Perro de Presa Canario	0	0	0	2	2
Caucasian	0	0	0	2	2
Saluki	0	1	0	0	1
Griffon	0	0	0	1	1
Golden Retriever	0	1	0	0	1
Malinois	0	1	0	0	1
Total	7 (3.5%)	91 (45.0%)	9 (4.5%)	95 (47.0%)	202 (100%)

Table (4): Prevalence of Canine Parvovirus infection in Khartoum State in summer.

Breed	Infected Male	Healthy Male	Infected Female	Healthy Female	Total
German shepherd	0	35	1	42	78
Lulu	1	8	0	17	26
Cross	1	9	0	9	19
Perro de Presa Canario	1	8	0	5	14
Royal black	0	7	0	1	8
Golden Retriever	0	0	0	6	6
Local	0	1	1	1	3
Rottweiler	0	1	0	1	2
American bulldog	0	2	0	0	2
Rood dog	0	0	0	1	1

Malinois	0	0	0	1	1
Husky	1	0	0	0	1
Total	4	71	2	84	161
	(2.5%)	(44.1%)	(1.3%)	(52.1%)	(100%)



Fig. (2): German shepherd dog infected with Canine Parvovirus.



Fig. (3): Positive CPV test for detection of Canine Parvovirus.



Fig. (4): Negative CPV test for detection of Canine Parvovirus.

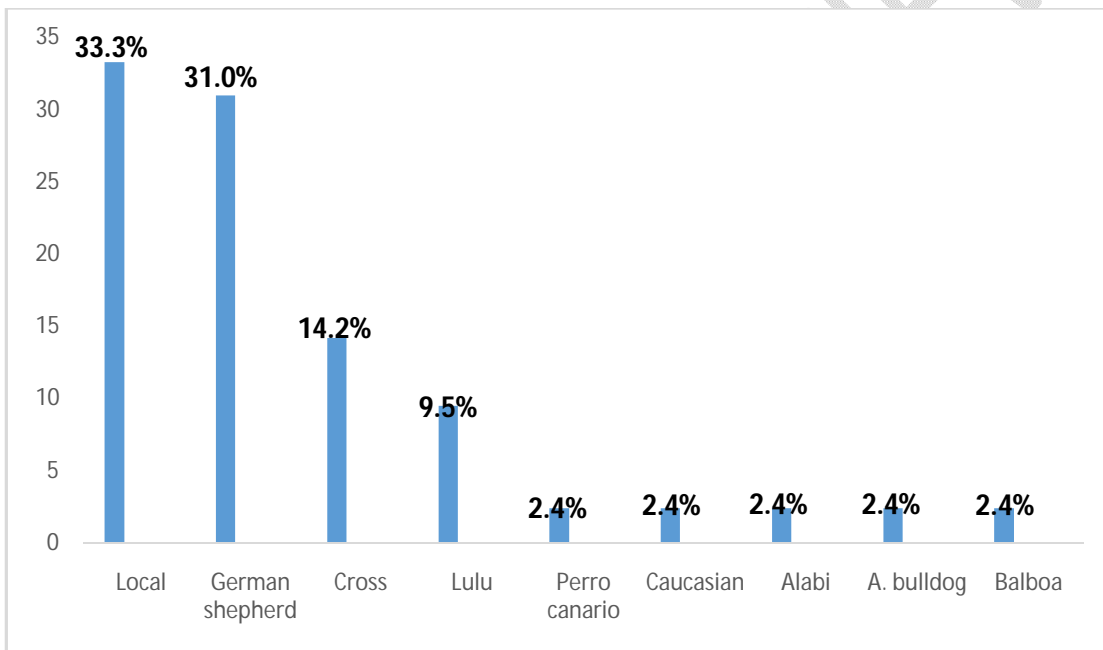


Fig. (5): Prevalence of Canine Parvovirus in different dog's breeds.

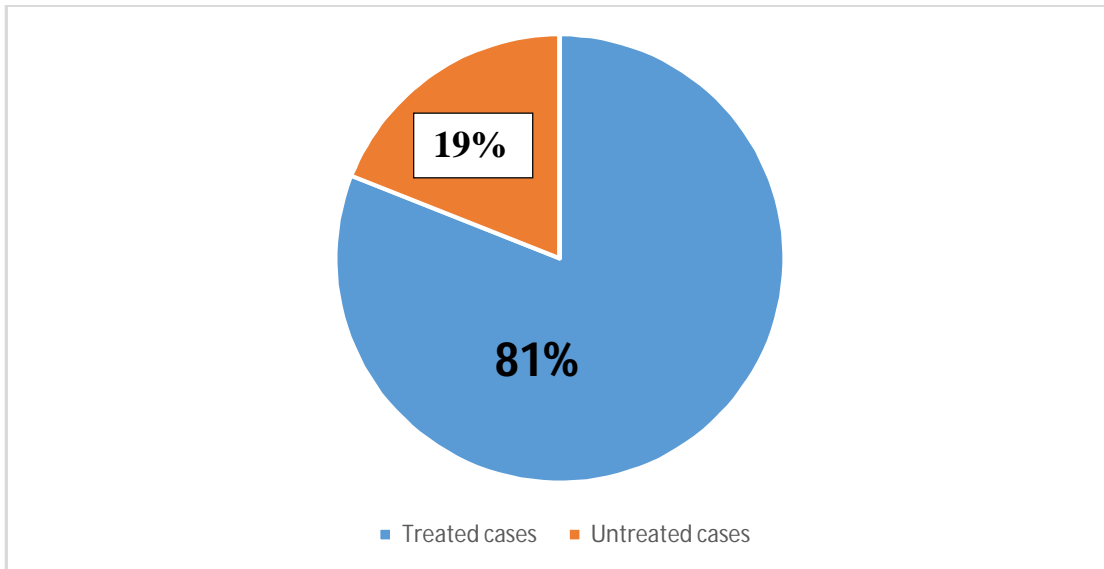


Fig. (6):Treated cases of Canine Parvovirus.

4. DISCUSSION

Canine parvovirus (CPV) is a contagious virus mainly affecting dogs. CPV is highly contagious and is spread from dog to dog by direct or indirect contact with their feces. Vaccines can prevent this infection, but mortality can reach 91% in untreated dogs. In the present study the prevalence of Canine Parvovirus infection in Khartoum State was found to be 7.0%. The similar percentage was reported by [16] In India. [17] reported higher prevalence (40%) of CPV in Egypt. Also [18] [19], reported higher prevalence of 45.30% and 65.04% respectively in India. These variations observed in the prevalence were difficult to explain due to the different study areas and differences in the methods of sample analysis. In this study the age of the infected dogs with CPV ranged in between 40 days and 13 months. [20] reported a prevalence of CPV infection in 3 to 6 months old dogs in Egypt. [21] [22] [23] stated that, the age wise prevalence of CPV infection revealed maximum prevalence in the dogs of 0-3 months of age i.e. 11.9%, followed by 3-6 months of age i.e. 7.09%, 6-12 months of age i.e. 5.31% and above 12 months of age i.e. 1.11%. [24] [25] [26] reported that in 1 month old dog, the prevalence varies from 5.40% to 9.93%; for 2 months old, it varies from 10.11 to 38.40%; for 3 months old, it varies from 11.26 to 23.08%; for 4 months old, it varies from 8.21 to 16.38%; between 5 months and 1 year, it varies from 2.55 to 7.65%; from 1 to 2 years, it varies from 0.00

to 18.03%, and over 2 years old, it varies from 0.00 to 11.20%. The higher prevalence in the dogs of 0 to 3 months of age may be attributed to the higher susceptibility of enterocytes to the viral tropism. [27] stated that during weaning, enterocytes of the intestinal crypts have a higher mitotic index because of the changes in bacterial flora and diet, and were therefore more susceptible. Thus, the higher prevalence of CPV infection in young dogs (0 to 3 months) was probably because of the close affinity of the virus with rapidly dividing cells of the intestine, which decline with the advancement of age [28] [23]. In this study the prevalence of CPV in male dogs was 3.8% and 3.2% in females. [29] stated that male and female dogs are equally susceptible for the disease. The findings is different than [24], [30] and [31] who reported that the prevalence of CPV in male dogs varies between 15.29 and 69.20%, whereas that of female dogs varies between 16.80 and 47.7%. In this study the prevalence of Canine Parvovirus was 33.3% in local breed, 31.0% in German shepherd, 14.2% in cross breed, 9.5% in Lulu, 2.4% in Perro de Presa Canario, Caucasian, Alabi, American bulldog and Balboa breeds. The high prevalence of CPV in local dogs was also reported by [18] and [16] in India. Also [20] and [23] in Egypt reported a higher prevalence of CPV in German shepherds breed of dogs. The higher prevalence in these breeds might be due to the higher population density of this breed making their proximity to spread the infection or poor vaccination schedule being followed by the owners of the non-descript breeds due to the lack of awareness among them. No specific comment can be made on breed susceptibility as the population density of the breed varies from one geographical area to another [18] [23]. The prevalence was higher in non-vaccinated dogs compared to the vaccinated ones. The finding was in agreement with [32] where unvaccinated puppies aged between six weeks and six months were at greatest risk of developing CPV infection. The higher prevalence of CPV infection in non-vaccinated dogs might be due to a lack of protective immunity. In vaccinated dogs, CPV infection might occur due to incomplete or ineffective primary vaccination course, or a failure of vaccination. In this study the prevalence of Canine Parvovirus during the autumn was 2.5%, 8.0% during the winter and 3.8% during the summer. Higher prevalence during different seasons was reported by [24], [33] and [34], who reported that in summer, prevalence vary from 7.70 to 52.22%; in the autumn vary from 5.48 to 33.06%, and in the winter vary from 14.80 to 33.04%. In the present study

81% of Canine Parvovirus cases respond for the treatment trials. In Switzerland [35] reported a survival rate of 86.6% and in UAS [36] reported a survival rate of 75% for Canine Parvovirus cases.

5. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

The prevalence of canine Parvovirus in Khartoum State was 7%. Male and female dogs had the same risk of infection with the virus. Young ages were more susceptible for the infection with the virus. Dogs were more susceptible for the infection in winter season. Local and German shepherd breeds were more susceptible for the disease. Most cases were treatable. The canine parvovirus infection is more likely to occur at an early stage of life; therefore, it is recommended for owners of puppies less than 16 weeks to avoid contact with dogs at high risk for canine parvovirus infection or during recovery stage. All dogs must be vaccinated against different diseases and complete the vaccine schedules. Diseased dogs must be treated early for good prognosis. Diseased dogs must be separated from healthy dogs to prevent spread of infection. Hygiene must be doing during infection (sanitizing of fomite, food and water dishes).

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