

The *Brucella canis*

WHAT IS BRUCELLA CANIS?

A **bacterial infection** affecting dogs, which can be passed to people.



UK cases are *increasing* because more dogs are being **imported** from overseas.

Healthy-looking dogs can still carry *Brucella canis*, which is why testing is based on **travel history**, not just symptoms.

Human infection is *uncommon*, but some people may be more at risk.

WHICH DOGS ARE AT RISK?

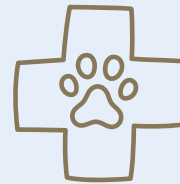
- **Imported** from abroad
- **Lived in / travelled to** 'high risk' countries
- Had contact with **imported** dogs or their bodily fluids

WHAT ARE THE SIGNS?

Many infected dogs can appear *completely healthy*.

Signs in **dogs** include:

- Breeding problems
- Lameness or back pain
- Enlarged lymph nodes
- Eye inflammation



Signs in **people** include:

- Flu-like symptoms
- Fever, tiredness, muscle + joint pain

NOT ALL TESTS ARE EQUAL

Many dogs had *screening* tests before entering the UK, but these do not identify *all stages* of infection.



APHA recommendation:

Specific blood tests (iELISA and SAT) are *most accurate*.

DOES MY DOG NEED TESTING?

Dogs with a travel/import history may need APHA iELISA and SAT testing, *particularly before routine referral*.

Why?

- ✓ Antibodies can take *12 weeks* to develop after infection
- ✓ Helps protect veterinary teams and other patients
- ✓ Prevents delays and allows safe referral planning



Emergency cases can still be assessed! The referral team will advise on the safest approach.

HOW CAN I HELP?

Avoid delays: Tell your vet if your dog has:

- Been imported
- Travelled abroad
- Lived overseas
- Had contact with imported dogs

