

## Newsletter 10/2019

We are pleased to welcome you to the monthly BattLab newsletter. This newsletter will bring you the latest news and information about our laboratory and all tests that we can offer to all our clients.



### UPCOMING BATTLAB SEMINAR CANINE MAST CELL TUMOURS: HOW NOT TO LOSE YOUR MIND!

We are pleased to announce the fourth and last of our series of 2019 seminars at BattLa. It will take place on the **26th of November at 19:30pm** at **BattLab** and focus on mast cell tumours in dogs. The seminar is mainly addressed at veterinarians but nurses and technicians are welcome to join too.

You will be guided by **Dr Katarzyna Purzycka**, oncologist from the **Royal Veterinary College (RVC)** that recently passed the American board and became specialist. You will learn how to diagnose a mast cell tumour and how to approach it from a clinical and therapeutic point of view.

The seminar is free of charge. For registration send an email with your contact details.

[FOR REGISTRATIONS CLICK HERE](#)

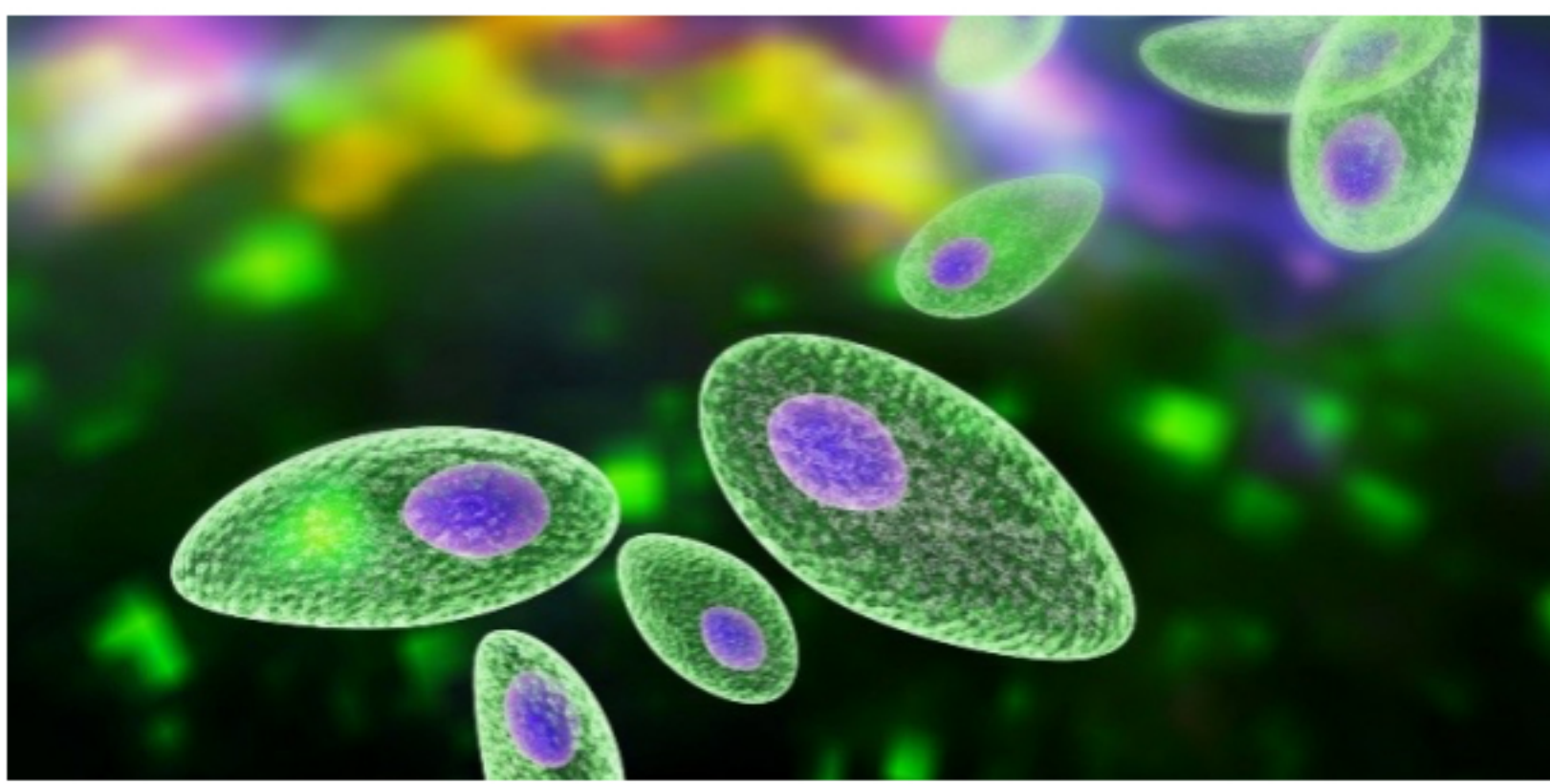


### MEMORIES FROM A GREAT NIGHT

Thanks to all the vets who joined us last month for the third of our free Battlab evening seminars focused on urinalysis. For all those who could not participate, there's a summary of the key points below:

- **Sensitivity of cytology for the detection of infection in urine** increases when the urine sediment is stained. However, bacterial culture is still the most sensitive test for urinary tract infections (UTI).
- **Diagnosis of transitional cell carcinoma** can be achieved by cytology. However, when a definitive diagnosis is not possible, especially in the presence of concurrent inflammation or only mild/moderate cell atypia, further testing should be considered. This includes histopathology and PCR for BRAF mutation.
- The **BRAF mutation detection assay** is a DNA test that helps in the detection of canine transitional carcinoma. According to our internal data recently published, this mutation has been identified in 70% of canine transitional carcinoma cases. This data is similar to what's present in the literature, which vary between 67-87%. Interestingly, the mutation has not been detected in dogs with other cancers or with inflammatory bladder diseases, giving to the test a specificity of 100%. This means that a positive result can be used to definitively confirm a cytological suspicion for transitional cell carcinoma. The other advantage of this technique is that it does not require any additional sample to be taken and the pre-stained cytology slide previously submitted can be used for this purpose.

If you are interested in any of these tests, in particular BRAF mutation, do not hesitate to contact us.



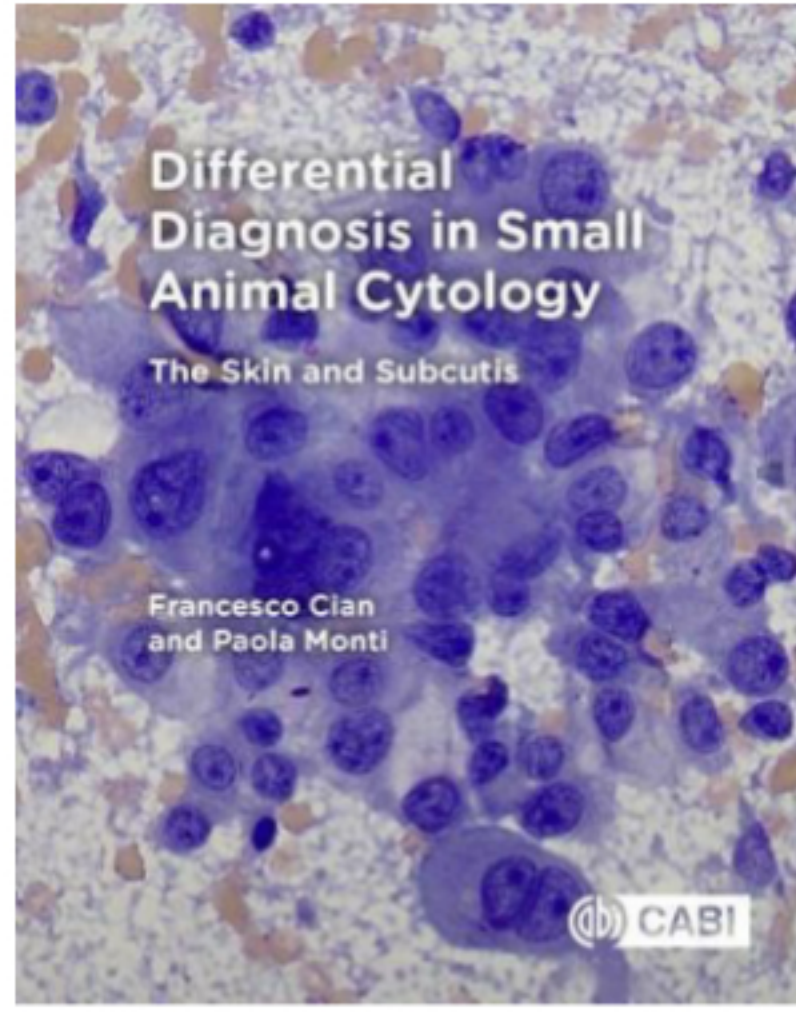
### TOXOPLASMOSIS: DIAGNOSTIC TIPS

*One of this month's articles is focused on Toxoplasmosis, a protozoal infection that can cause clinical disease in domestic animals, and in particular to the diagnostic tests that can be requested at BattLab to diagnose the infection and monitor treatment.*

**Diagnosis of toxoplasmosis.** The diagnosis of *T. gondii* infection or toxoplasmosis may be established by serologic tests, polymerase chain reaction (PCR) and cytological/histological demonstration of the parasite. Below you will find a schematic summary of all these tests with some more details that will be helpful in making the best choice.

[Read more](#)

### NEW SKIN CYTOLOGY BOOK




At BattLab we like to keep ourselves busy. We are happy to announce that our Senior Clinical Pathologist, Francesco Cian, has recently published with Paola Monti (Clinical Pathologist at Dick White Referrals) a **skin cytology book for CABI**.

With key points describing the main clinical and cytological features of each lesion, the book provides lists of differential diagnoses, including diagnostic algorithms, and handy 'hints and tips' boxes. It is also enriched by chapters on the correct use and maintenance of the microscope, and techniques of collection and preparation of cytological specimens, making the book a valuable resource for veterinary pathologists (clinical and anatomic), residents, veterinary undergraduate students and small animal practitioners.

Yours sincerely,  
The BattLab team

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