



**BattLab**

Quality Veterinary Diagnostics  
from disease to optimal health

## Newsletter 11/2018

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.

### LONDON VET SHOW 2018



From our whole staff, a great big thank you to all the people that visited our stand at the **London Vet Show** this month. We hope you found the informative material on the display inspirational and we look forward to speaking to anyone interested in our services over the coming weeks and months. To book a free courier anywhere in the UK, give us a call. To keep being updated about our news, check our [website](#) and join our [Facebook page](#).



### BRAF MUTATION

#### A new test that can help in the diagnosis of canine transitional cell carcinoma

**Transitional cell carcinoma** is the most common neoplasm of the urinary tract in the dog. Cytology by suction biopsy of the bladder is one of the most common methods of diagnosis, however this is not always diagnostic, especially when epithelial cells do not display marked features of atypia or when these are accompanied by inflammatory cells. Tissue biopsy via cystoscopy or surgery is a valid alternative, however this procedure is expensive, invasive and it requires general anaesthesia.

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 those present in the literature, which vary between 67-87%. Interestingly, the mutation has not been detected in dogs with other cancers not in dogs with inflammatory bladder diseases, giving to this 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.

This and many more genetic tests are offered by BattLab in cooperation with LABOKLIN. For more information, do not hesitate to contact us.



### ELIMINATING THE CONFUSION IN TEST RESULTS

#### – DRUGS

Drug interferences often go unrecognised in the laboratory due to lack of relevant patient medication information. Interference may be due to the parent drug, its metabolite or additives. Drug interference may be:

In veterinary medicine, the main interferences with biochemistry and haematology parameters are caused by steroids, anticonvulsants and certain antibiotics.

Table 1 shows the effects of commonly used drugs on selected biochemistry parameters and is based on the assays used at Batt Laboratories.

No significant effects are reported for commonly evaluated serum biochemistry parameters like bile acids, total bilirubin, chloride, cholesterol, CK, glucose, phosphate, potassium, sodium, total protein, urea, calcium.

Table 1. Various commonly drugs cause either increased values/false positives or decreased values/false negatives		
SERUM BIOCHEMISTRY		
Parameter	Drugs causing increased values or false positives	Drugs causing decreased values or false negatives
Albumin	Steroids	
ALP	Steroids (dogs) Anticonvulsants	
ALT	Anticonvulsants Steroids Acetaminophen Tetracycline in cats Thiacetarsamide in dogs	Cephalosporin Cyclosporin Isoniazide
Chloride	Bromide	
Creatinine	Glucose Cephalosporins Cefoxitin	
GGT	Anticonvulsants Steroids	
Lipase	Steroids	
Triglycerides	Steroids	

Yours sincerely,  
The BattLab team

024 7632 3275  
[www.battlab.com](http://www.battlab.com)

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