August 2021

Policy Decision 21-04

# National approach to *Ehrlichia canis* (*E. canis*) management

Animal Health Committee

## Recommendations

1. Nationally co-ordinated public information campaign promoting:
2. Awareness of *E. canis* and management of the vector
3. Guidelines for dog owners and breeders with dogs travelling or moving into/through areas where *E. canis* is known or likely to be active or where the vector is known to be present
4. Guidelines (promoted as protective biosecurity measures) for dog owners, breeders and rehoming organisations with dogs travelling or moving out of areas where *E. canis* is known or likely to be active to areas where *E. canis* is not established

Messaging should be simple and in language appropriate to meet stakeholder communication needs.

1. National guidelines for veterinarians investigating and managing cases of *E. canis*, including information for dog owners on long-term management of *E. canis*.

Additional recommendations where ‘infection with *E. canis*’ is listed as a nationally notifiable disease or notifiable under jurisdictional legislation:

1. Passive surveillance program in areas where *E. canis* is not known to be active
2. Active exclusion testing for suspect cases in areas where *E. canis* is not active or known to be active
3. National data management and reporting for *E. canis* surveillance through NAHIS.

## References

1. AHC41\_OOS04\_PAPER\_National Approach to *E. canis* Management

## More information

Learn more about the Animal Health Committee.

Email ahc@agriculture.gov.au

**Acknowledgement of Country**

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Australia and their continuing connection to land and sea, waters, environment and community. We pay our respects to the Traditional Custodians of the lands we live and work on, their culture, and their Elders past and present.

© Commonwealth of Australia 2022

Unless otherwise noted, copyright (and any other intellectual property rights) in this publication is owned by the Commonwealth of Australia (referred to as the Commonwealth).

All material in this publication is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International Licence except content supplied by third parties, logos and the Commonwealth Coat of Arms.

The Australian Government acting through the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry has exercised due care and skill in preparing and compiling the information and data in this publication. Notwithstanding, the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, its employees and advisers disclaim all liability, including liability for negligence and for any loss, damage, injury, expense or cost incurred by any person as a result of accessing, using or relying on any of the information or data in this publication to the maximum extent permitted by law.