



Companion Animal Surveillance Initiative (CASI)

2022 Annual Report

Surveillance coordinator: Tasha Epp

tasha.epp@usask.ca

Surveillance advisory committee: Dale Douma, Erica Sims, Kevin Cosford, Michelle Anholt, Hussein Keshwani, Brian Radke, Erin Fraser

To Participate in CASI — JOIN WeCAHN (www.wecahn.ca)

News from Companion Animal Surveillance Initiative (CASI)

Welcome to the first annual reporting from CASI where 2022 was the first year of data collection. This past year has been a very busy year for veterinarians in practice, with the growing pet population and the noticeable shortage of veterinarians. CASI was designed to be as simple as possible for veterinarians to participate in with the goal of receiving valuable knowledge in return. We continue to strive towards that goal, recognizing the busy nature of practicing veterinary medicine.

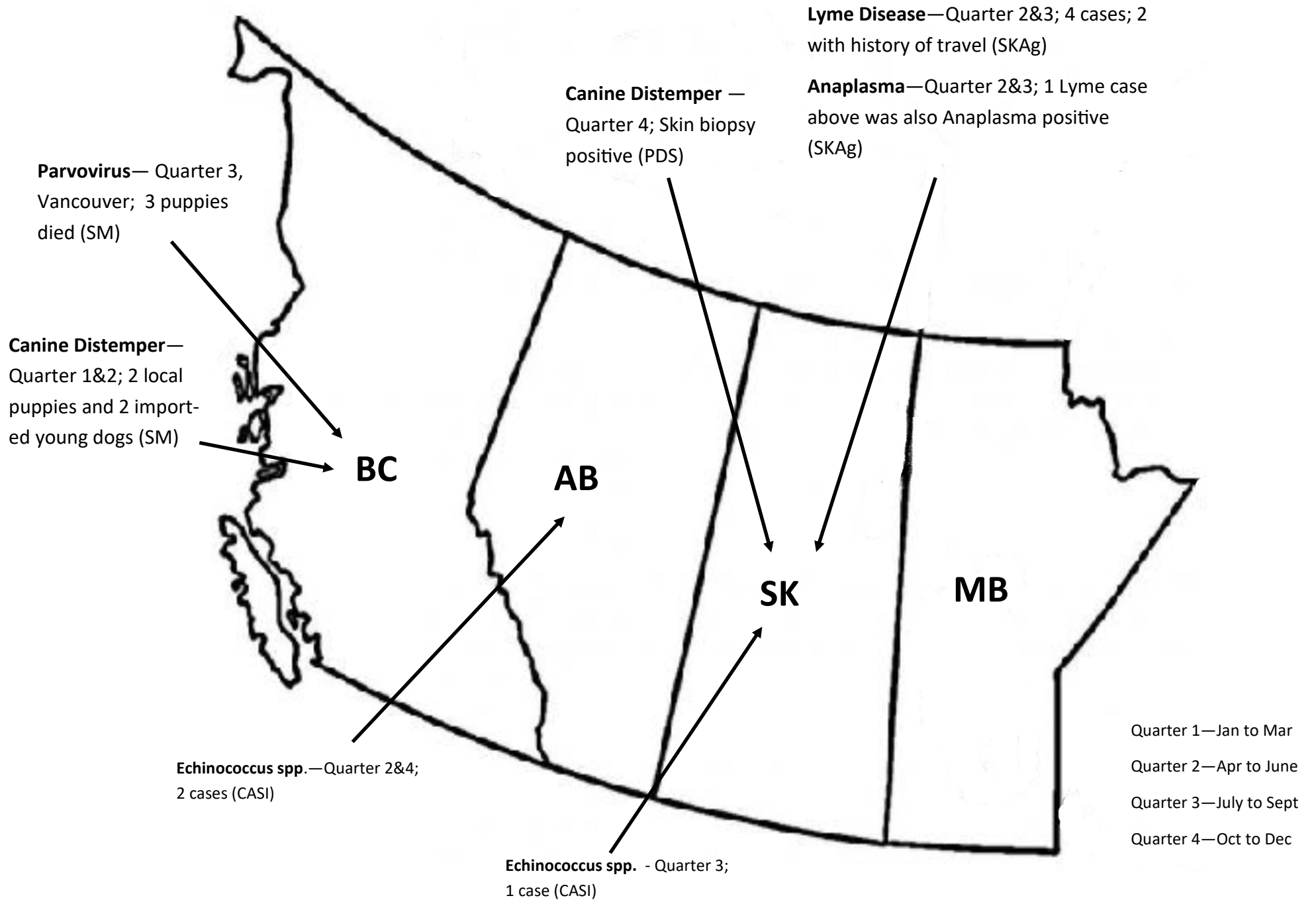
The following is a collection of reporting through quarterly surveys hosted on the WeCAHN supported CASI portal, with the addition of reporting from a laboratory, social media and Ministries of Agriculture in the western Canadian provinces. Hopefully, this will continue to spark participation in CASI and showcase the usefulness of such information for regular practicing veterinarians. It is the hope that reporting will become more the norm, allowing CASI to provide more real time reporting back to the vet community. Please feel free to reach out and share your ideas for making this surveillance effort more established, recognized and effective.

Thank you to all those that have contributed to the first year of CASI.

Sincerely, Dr. Tasha Epp, CASI Coordinator

Diseases of interest for CASI:

- Echinococcus spp (*multilocularis*, *granulosus*) - this can include visceral lesions and/or detection in fecal samples
- MRSA/MRSP (or other important AB-resistant pathogens)
- Salmonella (with additional reporting of Campylobacter and E. Coli)
- Borrelia *burgdorferi* (with additional reporting of Anaplasma, Ehrlichia, Dirofilaria immitis) - additionally, particular interest in testing being done in clinic using the 4DX SNAP TESTS
- Brucella *canis*
- Canine Distemper
- Parvovirus
- Canine Influenza
- Optional: Any unusual condition, or pathogen , or intoxication (such as rodenticide poisoning, cyanobacterial toxins, heavy metals or strychnine poisonings)



Reporting sources:

CASI - practicing veterinarians reporting to CASI through WeCAHN portal

SM—Social Media

PDS—Prairie Diagnostic Services

SKAg—Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture

The following is a list of the diseases of companion animals that are reportable or notifiable by province within western Canada:

Province	Notifiable Diseases	Reportable Disease	Website
Manitoba		Rabies	https://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/animal-health-and-welfare/animal-health/disease-
Saskatchewan	Lyme Disease, Salmonella enteritidis	Rabies	https://www.saskatchewan.ca/business/agriculture-natural-resources-and-industry/agribusiness-farmers-and-ranchers/livestock/animal-health-and-welfare/notifiable-disease-list
Alberta	Lyme Disease, presence of Ixodes tick, Salmonella	Rabies	https://www.alberta.ca/reportable-and-notifiable-animal-diseases.aspx
British Columbia	Lyme Disease, Anaplasmosis, Salmonella	Rabies	https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/agriculture-seafood/animals-and-crops/animal-health/reportable-notifiable-diseases
<p>Notifiable: Pathogens/diseases/conditions for which there is likely not action taken; however, cases are tracked to help provide support to vets/owners.</p> <p>Reportable: Pathogens/diseases/conditions for which there is some form of action taken, i.e. outbreak investigation, quarantines and /or surveillance/reporting</p>			

For more information:

Canine Distemper

- Infographic—available online at: <https://cahss.ca/CAHSS/Assets/Documents/Canine%20Distemper%202022%20EN%201.pdf>

Brucella canis

- Importation Infographic—available online at: <https://www.wormsandgermsblog.com/2018/06/articles/animals/dogs/canine-importation-info-sheets/>
- Testing Infographic—available online at: <https://www.wecahn.ca/wecahn-networks/companion-animal-surveillance-initiative>

Antibiotic Resistant Organisms

- Reducing Abs use Infographic—available at: <https://www.uoguelph.ca/ahl/book/export/html/9084>

HOW TO REPORT TO CASI:

As a Veterinarian in practice, you are the front line for reporting many of these pathogens of interest.

- You can report the pathogens you diagnose quarterly (every 3 months) — see the designated quarters listed on page 3. This can be done by one of your clinic staff or yourself, through a survey link provided once you login to the WeCAHN Companion Animal Surveillance Initiative (CASI) website— <https://www.wecahn.ca/wecahn-networks/companion-animal-surveillance-initiative>.
- If you would prefer to report a disease case in real time, you can login to CASI website and report using the survey link for One Time Reporting. Additionally, if you have an unusual occurrence of a condition and just want to report to someone, login to CASI website and use the survey link for One Time Reporting. If you give us permission, we can share these with your local VMAs to be shared through veterinary networks.
- If you would prefer, report your case(s) to your local VMA or directly to Canadian Animal Health Surveillance System (CAHSS) via the disease alert tool: <https://cahss.ca/cahss-tools/disease-alerts>. Once posted publicly, these reports are included in the CASI database if they relate to a dog from western Canada.
- Note: reporting of provincial and federal reportable disease must still occur to the Chief Veterinary Officer when/where applicable.