

# Identification of new antigens for the diagnosis of visceral leishmaniasis

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**Propositions for Dissertation of:**  
**Identification of New Antigens for the Diagnosis**  
**of Visceral Leishmaniasis - Application in Immunochromatography**

1. To be able to correctly identify dogs infected with visceral leishmaniasis (VL), it is essential to develop accurate and precise diagnostic tests.
2. It is possible to improve the performance of serological VL diagnosis by searching for new biological targets that can be applied on different diagnostics platforms.
3. The diagnosis of canine leishmaniasis (CanL) can help in the control of infection in dogs and, therefore, in the reduction of human infection.
4. The correct diagnosis can allow the immediate initiation of treatment and epidemiological surveillance on a larger scale, assisting in clinical and epidemiological decisions and thus promoting better control actions of VL.
5. Biosensors can improve the accuracy and precision of VL diagnosis by offering tools for high-throughput, low-cost routine screening methods.
6. High sensitivity and specificity do not always automatically lead to highly deployable and useful diagnostic tools.
7. Biosensors are especially crucial in low-income countries where their low-cost and user-friendly nature maximizes the possibility for point-of-care-application.
8. The KDDR-plus recombinant antigen showed its potential for a strong impact on society overcoming the academic barriers, and reaching the population that actually needs this service.