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# ENHANCED CANINE PLATELET AGGREGATION WITH ADP IN CULTURE OF *BABESIA GIBSONI*

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To elucidate the mechanism of thrombocytopenia in dogs infected with *Babesia gibsoni*, the interaction between canine platelets and *B. gibsoni*-infected erythrocytes in culture was studied. The results were as follows.

Addition of erythrocytes or the supernatant from *B. gibsoni*-infected erythrocyte culture to canine platelet-rich plasma showed enhanced platelet aggregation with ADP. The effect was decreased when the supernatant was diluted with culture medium, and abolished when it was boiled for 10 minutes. The effect was observed in the retained fraction but not in the filtrate after ultrafiltration of the supernatant on a membrane with an exclusion size of Mr=30,000. The effect was detected in the pellet of ammonium sulfate precipitation at 33% saturation followed by dialysis.

These results indicate that a factor which promotes canine platelet aggregation with exogenous ADP was present in both *B. gibsoni*-infected erythrocytes and the supernatant of *B. gibsoni*-infected erythrocyte culture, and that the factor may be a protein with a molecular weight of above 30,000.