

## SURVEY OF PATHOMORPHOLOGICAL EXAMINATION: ANALYSIS AND DOGS' DEATH CAUSES

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**Summary.** In 1997-1999 at the Department of Physiology and Pathology of the Lithuanian Veterinary Academy we performed 253 necropsies of dogs. Post-mortem examinations were conducted of 165 dogs of 30 different breeds and 88 mixed breed dogs. We examined 66.4 % of dead, 26.9 % euthanized, 4.3 % poisoned and 2.4 % shot dog bodies. Of all examined dogs, 15.8 % were less than 1 year of age, 22.9 % were 1 to 5 years of age, 32.0 % were 6 to 10 years of age, 5.9 % were more than 11 years of age and the age of the 23.3 % of dogs was not detected. Males were 62.5 % of examined dogs and 37.5 % - were females. The following causes of the dogs' death were determined: poisoning by rodent - 3.6 %; inflammation of the respiratory tract - 3.0 %; pathology of sexual organs - 5.9 %; oncological cases - 17.3 %; pathology of mammary glands - 0.6 %; heart pathology - 36.9 %; pathology of the urinary system - 7.7 %; trauma - 4.8 %; pathology of the digestive system - 8.3 %; *Toxocara canis* infection - 0.6 %; canine distemper - 0.6 %; viral enteritis - 6.5 % and other causes - 4.2 %. The number of dogs suffering from oncological cases was: 23.7 % - in 1997; 21.7 % - in 1998 and 26.0 % - in 1999. The tumours were detected: hemangiosarcoma - 13.3 %, tumours of uterus, its appendages and ovaries - 5.0 %, lymphosarcoma - 48.3 %, osteosarcoma - 11.7 %, tumours of anal glands - 3.3 %, mammary gland tumours - 8.3 %, hyperplasia and neoplasm of prostate - 10.0 % of all cases.

**Keywords:** dogs, necropsy, pathomorphological changes, causes of death.