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1 Scope and editorial policy

The Journal of Veterinary Diagnostic Investigation (J Vet Diagn Invest) is an international peer-reviewed journal published in English as the official journal of the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians (AAVLD). JVDI is devoted to all aspects of veterinary laboratory medicine. The major disciplines are anatomic pathology, bacteriology/mycology, clinical pathology, epidemiology, immunology, laboratory information management, molecular biology, parasitology, public health, toxicology, and virology.

Three manuscript formats are accepted for review: Reviews, Full Scientific Reports, and Brief Reports. Review articles are strongly encouraged provided they cover subjects of current and broad interest to veterinary laboratory diagnosticians. The suitability of Letters to the Editor, Book Reviews, and Commentaries is determined by the Editor-in-Chief, and a pre-submission inquiry to the editor is recommended.
1.1 Copyright considerations

JVDI accepts original manuscripts for consideration with the understanding that the same material or a substantial part thereof is not presently being considered for publication or has not been published elsewhere. The Corresponding Author must secure the approval of all authors and institution(s) where the work was carried out. A statement to the Editor confirming that such approval has been received must be included in the submission cover letter. Upon acceptance for publication, authors will receive a link to the Contributor Form to transfer copyright or another suitable arrangement to the publisher. All articles published in JVDI are protected by copyright that covers the translation rights as well as the exclusive rights of AAVLD to reproduce and distribute the articles. JVDI will not publish any manuscript for which the signed Contributor Form has not been submitted.

If your manuscript incorporates any previously copyrighted material that is not in the public domain, you must obtain written reprint permission from the copyright owner and submit a scanned PDF of the permission along with your manuscript files via our online manuscript submission portal (see section 8). No manuscript containing previously copyrighted material will be accepted for review in JVDI without submission of satisfactory proof that copyright permission has been obtained.

1.2 Ethical considerations

1.2.1 Animal welfare

JVDI requires that authors obtain the relevant national/state/institutional approval prior to animal experimentation. In the United States, this means the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee for approval for any animal experiment.

Authors are encouraged to register their clinical trials at http://clinicaltrials.gov or other suitable databases identified by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors.

1.2.2 Plagiarism

JVDI employs the software program iThenticate to detect plagiarism. From the U.S. Office of Research Integrity, plagiarism of text is “copying a portion of text from another source without giving credit to its author and without enclosing the borrowed text in quotation marks” and plagiarism of ideas is “appropriating someone else’s idea (e.g., an explanation, a theory, a conclusion, a hypothesis, a metaphor) in whole or in part, or with superficial modifications without giving credit to its originator.” Detection of plagiarized material in a manuscript will result in its immediate rejection, regardless of its scientific merit. The author’s institution may be notified.

1.3 Authorship

The submitting author affirms that all individuals listed as authors agree that they have met the criteria of authorship and agree to the conclusions of the study. The JVDI Authorship Form is a downloadable PDF that must be completed and submitted during the submission process. For more information, see the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors on the roles and responsibilities of authors and contributors.

Changes in authorship.

“Any requests for changes in authorship after initial manuscript submission and before publication should be explained in writing to the editor in a letter signed by all authors, or if sent by email, all authors should be copied (i.e., included as recipients of the email).” (Christiansen S, Flanagin A. What’s new in AMA style? Am Med Writers Assoc Ann Meet; Nov 2019; hereafter AMA Manual of Style, 11 ed.)
Equal credit for authorship.

On the title page, use an asterisk (*) after author names to indicate if authors should receive equal credit—no more than 2 authors per manuscript. Below the corresponding author information, add the following text: *These authors contributed equally to this work.

1.4 Preprints

As part of the submission process, you will be required to warrant that you are submitting your original work, that you have the rights in the work, that you have obtained and can supply all necessary permissions for the reproduction of any copyright works not owned by you, that you are submitting the work for first publication in the Journal, and that it is not being considered for publication elsewhere and has not already been published elsewhere. Note that JVDI may accept submissions of papers that have been posted on pre-print servers; include the DOI for the preprint in the designated field during the submission process. Authors should not post an updated version of their paper on the preprint server while it is being peer-reviewed. If the article is accepted for publication, the author may re-use their work according to the Journal’s author archiving policy. If your paper is accepted, you must include a link on your preprint to the final version of your paper.

2 Fees and open-access policy*

There is a manuscript-processing fee of $75 for each printed page published in JVDI. Authors are allowed 2 free pages of color figures in print and online; authors are responsible for paying the cost of publishing additional color pages at the rate of $250 per page. Black & white images do not incur any additional cost. Upon manuscript acceptance, invoices for page and color charges will be sent via email to the Corresponding Author, and payment is expected WITHIN 30 DAYS.

JVDI offers optional open access publishing via the SAGE Choice program. For information on funding body compliance, and depositing your article in repositories, please visit SAGE Publishing Policies on the SAGE Journal Author Gateway.

* Authors will not be asked for any payment related to their submitted articles until the article is accepted and in production. Please report any suspicious communications you receive to the Managing Editor at editorial@aavld.org.

3 Review and acceptance criteria

Based on an assessment by the JVDI editorial office of compliance with JVDI acceptability criteria, manuscripts will be reviewed by 2 or more persons selected by the Editors based on their expert knowledge and/or experience in the subject matter. Authors may provide the editorial staff with a list of suggested reviewers for their work and may also request that specific individuals be excluded as reviewers because of potential conflicts of interest. The peer-review process is single blinded, that is, editors and reviewers are aware of the authors’ identities, but authors are not informed of the reviewers’ identities. Acceptance of a manuscript for publication is determined by the Editors based on peer review, scientific merit, and value to JVDI readers.

Prior publication of an abstract or poster presented at a conference will generally not impact the manuscript's eligibility for publication.

Potential reviewers of all manuscripts submitted to JVDI are asked to consider any potential conflicts of
interest they may have before agreeing to review a manuscript. We expect that reviewers with a substantial conflict of interest will disqualify themselves from reviewing a manuscript. More information, as well as general Instructions to Reviewers, is available from SAGE Journal Reviewer Gateway.

Review and acceptability criteria include, but are not limited to, the following: novelty/usefulness and adequacy of experimental design, tables, and figures.

3.1 Novelty of contents and impact/usefulness to veterinary laboratory diagnosticians

3.1.1 Novelty

JVDI is devoted to the publication of original work. Before submitting a manuscript for review, it is the responsibility of all authors to review the literature to ensure that work similar to their own has not been published previously. Authors, please take note of the following examples:

- The development of detection assays (notably PCR procedures) for pathogens that have existing assays already published in the literature: JVDI will consider these papers if it can be demonstrated that the submitted manuscript constitutes a significant improvement over previously published methodology. Please note that if one or more previously described PCR procedures for any given pathogen exist, subsequent submissions will be acceptable for publication only if the authors demonstrate equivalency (or preferably superiority) via a side-by-side comparison between the existing assay and the new assay. The manuscript must also assess important test-related criteria such as sensitivity, specificity, accuracy, robustness, rapidity, throughput, and cost.

- The isolation and/or identification of infectious agents from host species that have previously been described in the literature will be considered if the submitted paper adds impactful new information, such as a new detection method, novel virulence or pathogenicity data, or unique antimicrobial susceptibility information. In contrast, the detection of a well-known pathogen in a new animal species is not considered sufficiently novel information to warrant publication.

- Single case reports will be considered for publication only if they demonstrate excellence in the diagnostic investigation, including a detailed discussion on the differential diagnosis. Preferred submissions would be novel, emerging, or unique case reports; case series summaries; classic diseases that have significantly evolved or changed in some fashion; or demonstration of the usefulness of new technologies to the diagnostic process. Case reports combined with a review of the literature on the topic of the case report may increase the chances of having a manuscript accepted for publication.

3.1.2 Usefulness and impact

The target readership of JVDI is veterinary laboratory diagnosticians. The contents of manuscripts published in JVDI must be applied science and relevant to the professional activities of this core group. Examples of manuscripts that do not fit within the scope of JVDI include the following:

- Clinically oriented manuscripts regarding therapy and clinical diagnostic techniques (e.g., ultrasonography, radiology).

- Basic science manuscripts (e.g., mapping genes of infectious agents without a practical diagnostic application).

3.2 Adequacy of experimental design and test validation

The experimental design used must be appropriate and adequate. Similarly, the interpretations and conclusions must be valid and supported by appropriate statistical analysis. All tests used are expected to
have been validated in-house. Variants of standard tests may be referenced to a previous peer-reviewed report. No reference is needed for standard techniques, such as tissue sectioning and H&E staining.

If standard tests are modified, the authors must present comparability data or reference published data that shows comparability. If the subject of the article is the validation or modification of a PCR assay then the following information should be described: PCR primer and probe sequences; analytical sensitivity and specificity performance characteristics; repeatability and reproducibility; and diagnostic sensitivity and specificity (Toohey-Kurth K., et al. Suggested guidelines for validation of real-time PCR assays in veterinary diagnostic laboratories. J Vet Diagn Invest 2020;32(6); Principles and methods of validation of diagnostic assays for infectious diseases. In: Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals. OIE, 2019; see Appendix A). For clinical pathology test guidelines, see current ASVCP Quality Assurance and Laboratory Standards Guidelines. Authors should state which guideline they are following.

3.3 Adequacy of title, references, figures, and tables

The title must adequately reflect the contents of the manuscript. References must be as current and complete as possible but avoid the use of multiple references to back up a single fact. Figures and tables must be pertinent to the contents of the manuscript and must not be redundant with information already presented in the text.

4 Manuscript preparation

- Please take the time to read our Best Practices for submitting, reviewing, and publishing in JVDI.
- Microsoft Word file, double-spaced, 12-point Times New Roman font, left-justified, 25 mm (1 in.) margin on all sides, pages numbered at the bottom center (i.e., Page X of Y).
- For styles, do not use Heading 1, etc. Use the Normal style setting.
- Number the text lines consecutively throughout the manuscript; begin page 1 with line 1; do not restart numbering on each subsequent page.
- Indent paragraphs and do not include spaces between paragraphs.
- Allow 1 space (not 2) after a word or period.
- Number style is one, 2, 3, 4… within the text, but 1, 2, 3, 4… when in a series in the same sentence.
- Number cases starting with case 1 regardless of your particular numbering system and use in all sections of the manuscript (e.g., cases 1–10; cases 2, 3, and 5). Laboratory case numbers should not be used in the text, tables, or figures.
- SI units of measurement (International System of Units) must be used (may include conventional units in brackets; see section 4.1.3).
- For anatomic terms, use the English equivalents of terms in Nomina Anatomica Veterinaria. Names of infectious agents should follow the current published standards for viruses (ICTV, International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses), bacteria (NCBI), and fungi (NCBI).
- Cite the name of a manufacturer in parentheses at the appropriate location within the text.
- Reference citations in text are listed as superscripts after the punctuation, as shown.1,2-4,8
- Arrange references alphabetically, numbered consecutively.
- Include tables in the main document, but do not embed figures. Suppl. tables should be submitted as a separate file in .doc format, NOT as a pdf.
- Submit figures as .tiff or .jpg only (see sect. 5). Do not exceed the max. file size of 5 MB per figure.
- Submit supplementary tables as Microsoft Word files (see section 6). Submit supplementary figures following the figure guidelines (see section 5).
4.1 General format and style

4.1.1 Layout and media

Three manuscript formats are accepted: Reviews, Full Scientific Reports, and Brief Reports (supplementary files may be submitted with each of these formats). Review Articles are strongly encouraged provided they cover subjects of current and broad interest to veterinary laboratory diagnosticians. Authors interested in submitting a Review Article should contact the Editor-in-Chief (gmaxie@uoguelph.ca). The suitability of Letters to the Editor, Book Reviews, and Commentaries is determined by the Editor-in-Chief, and a pre-submission inquiry to the editor is recommended. Book Reviews are also welcome and should be emailed to Donal O’Toole, the Book Review Editor (DOT@uwyo.edu), and not submitted through the submission site.

4.1.2 Language and style

The American form of English must be used, and manuscripts must be written in a style following the current standards for scientific publications. Editors will reject manuscripts that do not meet a minimum standard for written English. Abbreviations may be used after the first mention with complete spelling. Use Arabic numerals except when a number begins a sentence, in which case spell the number out in full. JVDI number style is one, 2, 3, 4… within the text, but 1, 2, 3, 4… when in a series in the same sentence.

An editing service, including translation from Spanish, Portuguese, or Chinese, is available from SAGE; use of this service does not guarantee acceptance of the manuscript by the journal.

“Use of the terms first world/third world and developed/developing are not recommended as descriptors when comparing countries or regions. Low-income, limited-income, resource-limited, resource-poor, transitional…” are acceptable (AMA Manual of Style, 11 ed.).

4.1.3 Units of measurement and mitotic count

SI units of measurement (International System of Units) must be used (may include conventional units in brackets). Express centrifugal speed in relative centrifugal force (× g) and not in revolutions per minute. Liter = L.

For easy conversions, see AMA Manual of Style:

http://www.amamanualofstyle.com/page/si-conversion-calculator

For veterinary lab examples, see:

https://www.uoguelph.ca/ahl/content/hematology-reference-intervals
https://www.uoguelph.ca/ahl/biochemistry-reference-intervals

Mitotic count

In a cellular region at the periphery of the tumor with the most mitotic activity, count the total number of mitotic figures in 2.37 mm² (10 contiguous fields, no overlapping, high-power field [HPF] 40× objective, 10× ocular field number [FN] 22 mm, field of view [FOV] diameter 0.55 mm at specimen level), avoiding and/or skipping areas of the tumor that are cell-poor from hemorrhage, edema, necrosis, cysts, etc. Report as mitotic count (MC) and not mitotic index (MI; Meuten DJ, et al. Mitotic count and the field of view area: time to standardize. Vet Pathol 2016;23:1–15).

4.1.4 Sources and manufacturers

Cite the name of the manufacturer in parentheses at the appropriate location within the text—addresses of suppliers are not required. Use generic names of drugs in the text, with the brand name in parentheses. For online analyses or software, add the URL in parentheses.
The Microflex LT MALDI-TOF mass spectrometer (Bruker Daltonics) was used in our study. The mass spectrometer was calibrated for molecular weights with a range of 3,637–16,952 Da prior to sample testing using the bacterial test standard (Bruker Daltonics), as per the manufacturer’s recommendations.

The amplicons were then purified, sequenced, and further confirmed by BLAST (http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/blast/Blast.cgi).

4.2 Detailed manuscript layout

4.2.1 Title page
Manuscript page 1: Title of paper, authors’ first name, middle initial, last name (e.g., John D. Doe); name and location of each author’s institution(s); name, postal address, and email of the corresponding author; and a short running title not to exceed 60 characters (including spaces). Please set up title and authors as in a recent issue of JVDI. Use sentence case for Article title.

Example:

*Paeniclostridium (Clostridium) sordelli*–associated enterocolitis in 7 horses

Akinyi C. Nyaoke, Mauricio A. Navarro, Karina Fresneda, Santiago S. Diab, Janet Moore, Dena Lyras, Milena Awad, Francisco A. Uzal

California Animal Health and Food Safety Laboratory System, University of California–Davis, San Bernardino (Nyaoke, Navarro, Fresneda, Moore, Uzal) and Davis (Diab) branches, CA; Infection and Immunity Program, Monash Biomedicine Discovery Institute and Department of Microbiology, Monash University, Clayton, Victoria, Australia (Lyras, Awad).

1Corresponding author: Francisco A. Uzal, California Animal Health and Food Safety, University of California–Davis, 105 W Central Avenue, San Bernardino, CA 92408. xxx@ucdavis.edu

Running head: *Paeniclostridium sordelli* enterocolitis in horses

4.2.2 Abstract
Manuscript page 2: Limit the abstract to **250 words or fewer** (Full Scientific Reports) or **200 words or fewer** (Brief Reports) and write as a single paragraph. It must be factual and concise, yet complete enough to stand alone without reference to the text. State conclusions clearly: “Results are discussed” is unacceptable. *Do not use reference citations in the Abstract.*

4.2.3 Key words
Manuscript page 2: Using terms from the medical subject headings (*MeSH*) list of the U.S. National Library of Medicine, provide an alphabetical list of key words or phrases not to exceed 80 characters (including spaces). Note key words directly below, and on the same page as, the Abstract. *Spell out abbreviations at first use.* During online submission, SAGE Track limits the number of key words that can be submitted. This has no bearing on the list included in your manuscript.
4.2.4 Manuscript sections

- Reviews: Abstract (≤ 250 words) and Key words; Introduction; and appropriate section headings and subheadings chosen by the author.

- Full Scientific Reports: Abstract (≤ 250 words) and Key words; Introduction; Materials and methods; Results; Discussion; Acknowledgments (optional); Declaration of conflicting interests; Funding; References; Tables (optional); and Figure legends (if applicable). Do not use subheads in Introduction and Discussion. Do not summarize your findings (In conclusion…) at the end of the manuscript (avoid a repeat of the Abstract).

- Brief Reports: Abstract (≤ 200 words) and Key words; body of manuscript (<2,000 words; no section or subheadings in the main text); Acknowledgments (optional); Declaration of conflicting interests; Funding; References (n ≤ 20); Tables (optional); and Figure legends (if applicable; note: no more than 1 plate of 4 figures). Do not summarize your findings (In conclusion…) at the end of the manuscript (avoid a repeat of the Abstract).

- Supplementary material is optional (see section 6).

Acknowledgments

In the Acknowledgments section, list all contributors who do not meet the criteria for authorship. Examples of those who might be acknowledged include a person who provided purely technical help, writing assistance, or a department chair who provided only general support. Authors are to disclose whether they had any writing assistance and identify the entity that paid for this assistance.

Conflicting interests

Required section. A statement is required from all authors to be carried within the paginated pages of all published articles, under the heading “Declaration of conflicting interests”. If no conflicting interests exist, please use the following text:

Declaration of conflicting interests

The authors declared no potential conflicts of interest with respect to the research, authorship, and/or publication of this article.

When making a declaration, the disclosure information must be specific and include any financial relationship that authors of the article have with any sponsoring organization and the for-profit interests the organization represents, and with any for-profit product discussed or implied in the text of the article.

Any commercial or financial involvements that might represent an appearance of a conflict of interest need to be additionally disclosed in the cover letter accompanying your article to assist the Editor in evaluating whether sufficient disclosure has been made within the Declaration of Conflicting Interests provided in the article. For more information, please visit the SAGE Journal Author Gateway.

Publication of papers dealing with a commercial product or laboratory test does not convey or imply an endorsement by the Journal of Veterinary Diagnostic Investigation or the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians.

Funding

Required section. Disclose any funding sources, as well as grant numbers. If no outside funding was used, please use the following text:
Funding

The authors received no financial support for the research, authorship, and/or publication of this article.

References

In the text, identify references with superscript numbers. Do not use names of authors in the text. Authors are responsible for the accuracy of all references.

Examples:

Previous studies\textsuperscript{1,3,25} have shown….

Rarely, the nasal infection caused by \textit{P. insidiosum} in sheep extends to the rhinopharyngeal region\textsuperscript{11}; the submandibular and parotid lymph nodes are almost always involved.\textsuperscript{25,27,31}

In the list of References, first arrange references alphabetically by the first author, then number them consecutively (see \textbf{Appendix B}).

Personal communications should be listed in the text [e.g., (Maxie MG, pers. comm., 2020 Apr 08)].

Tables

Tables appear on separate pages following the References. The table title appears directly above the table. Table titles must be free-standing and self-explanatory. Number tables consecutively with Arabic numerals and cite consecutively in the text. Insert citations in the text following relevant results (Table 1; Fig. 3), rather than devoting a sentence to referencing the content of the Table or Figure (“… are presented in Table 1.”). Spell out all abbreviations in alphabetical order using table footnotes (e.g., \textit{M} = male; \textit{ND} = not determined). Indicate references to items other than abbreviations using the following sequential symbols (\*, †, ‡, §, ¶, #, ¶, **). See sample table below.

\textbf{Example:}

\textbf{Table 1.} Results of a selective enrichment broth with real-time PCR assay for \textit{Salmonella}, expressed as cycle \textit{threshold} (Ct) values, for recent clinical isolates spiked into an environmental matrix from a poultry farm.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Origin</th>
<th>Serogroup</th>
<th>Serovar</th>
<th>Ct value for indicated dilution (cfu/mL)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bovine feces</td>
<td>NG</td>
<td>Cerro</td>
<td>13.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>K</td>
<td>Cerro</td>
<td>15.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bovine small intestine</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>4,5,12:i:-</td>
<td>16.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avian drag swab</td>
<td>C1</td>
<td>Thompson</td>
<td>16.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reptile feces</td>
<td>NG</td>
<td>Arizona III\textsubscript{53}:z10:z35</td>
<td>14.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bovine lung</td>
<td>D1</td>
<td>Dublin</td>
<td>29.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\textit{NG} = non-groupable.

* All samples were culture-positive except those marked by an asterisk.

\textbf{Figure legends}

Every figure must have a corresponding legend. Legends appear on a separate page following the References or Tables. Identify animal species, organ, or tissue, and describe the figure in a continuous
phrase or sentence. Indicate stains on light and electron micrographs within the figure legend. See also Image magnification in section 5. Related series of figures may be grouped into plates (see Panel image alignment in section 5).

Example:

**Figure 1.** Multifocal necrosis in a chicken liver. H&E. Bar = 20 μm.

*For figures submitted as a plate:*

Figures 1–4. Membranous ventricular septal aneurysm in a black-tailed prairie dog. **Figure 1.** A multinodular dark red mass with a smooth and shiny surface projects into the lumen of the right ventricle (RV) from the interventricular septum in the area of the septal cusp of the tricuspid valve. Black line indicates plane of section in Figs. 2–4. **Figure 2.** Longitudinal section of the heart through the mass including right atrium (RA), right ventricle, and left ventricle (LV), showing an absent membranous interventricular septum (arrow) with a thin wall separating the left and right ventricles. This wall is formed by the septal cusp of the tricuspid valve, the free edge of which is adherent to the interventricular septum. A large lamellated recent thrombus fills the aneurysmal space (asterisk). H&E. **Figure 3.** The septal cusp of the tricuspid valve separating the left and right ventricular lumina is strongly alcianophilic on the atrial aspect, similar to the aortic (top left) and parietal tricuspid (top center) valve cusps. Inset shows a higher magnification of the cusp (boxed). Alcian blue and periodic acid–Schiff. **Figure 4.** The septal cusp of the tricuspid valve separating the left and right ventricular lumina is densely collagenous on the ventricular aspect, with a loose collagenous matrix on the atrial aspect, similar to the aortic (top left) and parietal tricuspid (top center) valve cusps. Inset shows a higher magnification of the cusp (boxed). Masson trichrome.

## 5 Figures

*Failure to submit figures in the required format and resolution will result in immediate rejection.* Figures must NOT be embedded in the text document but submitted separately. Design single illustrations for one column. Design illustrations with figure panels to reproduce in 2 columns (180 mm wide) or 1 column (90 mm wide). Please submit figures UN-flattened to allow for editing if needed. Do not exceed the maximum file size of 5 MB per figure.

Acceptable formats are .tiff and .jpg

- minimum acceptable resolution is **300 dpi** (dots or pixels/inch) for photographs, pathology images
- minimum acceptable resolution is **600 dpi** for line art (i.e., graphs, charts, maps)

Group multiple color figures into a composite figure separated by a thin white line, with the individual panels clearly identified (i.e., 1, 2, 3, etc., or A, B, C, etc.) in 14-point Arial, located in the bottom left corner of each image. Save figures as separate files with the figure number (Fig 1, Fig 2, Figs 3–5, etc.) as the file name *(do not use figure numbers and/or titles as part of the image)*.

Submit pathology images in color.

- In gross pathology images, grass, surgery drapes, bodily fluids, gloves, etc., must be digitally removed and replaced with a more-or-less uniform background.
  - In gross anatomic photographs, locate the head to the right.
• Scale bars are acceptable, but case numbers or other identification legends are not.

• In photomicrographs, orient the surface of the skin or mucous membrane at the top of the figure. Photomicrographs must not contain photographic or tissue artifacts, and the images must be evenly lit with white backgrounds (places where there is no tissue). Limit image modification or enhancement to that obtainable by ordinary photographic techniques or to adjustment of white balance, brightness, or contrast by photo-editing software. If these parameters in your figures are unacceptable, the Images Editor may make suitable adjustments.

• There is no requirement to indicate image size in the figure legend—scale bars are preferred (see below). If an image size of a photomicrograph is used, only state “original objective 10×”, etc. Do not include calculations for camera adapter lens, camera eyepiece lens, alteration of a photomicrograph with computer software, etc.

• Scale bars may be used if deemed necessary by the authors but are not required—if used, then magnification is not needed. Scale bars may be black or white (depending on the background) and are located on the bottom right corner of the image. Please do not place the µm size on the figure; instead, add the size to the figure legend (e.g., Bar = 20 μm).

• Electron micrographs must have a scale bar in the figure.

• Other. Photographs of toxic plants and animals, maps, color doppler ultrasound.

Panel image alignment
Set your panel in the form of a rectangle or square, with no empty spaces, except for the thin white lines between images. Panels may have up to 3 figures across and up to 3 figures vertical.

Examples of acceptable panels.
If you submit your images as .tiff files, use LZW compression. LZW compression will reduce file size (sometimes dramatically) without affecting quality. When saving a file such as a .tiff from any photo-editing program, you are given the option of compressing the file. LZW compression will speed up the upload and download times and will not affect your image negatively.

*Kaplan–Meier survival curves*

A table of the number of animals at risk is required for each graph (*AMA Manual of Style*, 11 ed.).

![Kaplan–Meier survival curves](image)

Labels on graph axes (in Sentence case) must be of sufficient point size to be readable in print.

6 Supplementary files

If your manuscript contains supplementary data, please add the following text in the main document following the Funding section:

**Supplementary material**

*Supplementary material for this article is available online.*

All supplementary data should be referenced in the text.

*Example:*

Laboratories were asked to provide a list of 10 most common bacterial isolates on which they performed antimicrobial susceptibility testing across all animal species (Table 2; Suppl. Table 1).

The JVDI editorial office edits submitted any supplementary material (submit text and tables as .doc files; submit figures as .tiff or .jpg files) for formatting and consistency with the main document, then combines the material into a single PDF file for posting. **Do not submit supplementary material as pdfs.**

JVDI, through SAGE Publications, hosts supplementary materials online, alongside the full text of articles. Supplementary materials are generally files that were used to create the research (e.g., datasets, dendrograms, etc.) or additional pieces to the article that could not be included in the print version (such as audio/video material, tables, figures, or raw data that is not feasible to produce in print form).
7 Page proofs

The Corresponding Author will receive page proofs by email from the Sage Production Editor within 2–4 wk from time of acceptance.

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8 New manuscript submission

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9 Revised manuscript submission

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10 Help

If you experience any problems during the online submission process, please consult the SAGE Track Author Guide and FAQs, which provides detailed submission instructions. Holly Farrell, the Managing Editor (editorial@aaavl.org), is also available for assistance.
## APPENDIX A

**PCR guidelines: suggested dossier or publication information**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sample</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Source of known positive and negative samples</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description of sample types and species</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Processing procedure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Description of procedure and length of time, if frozen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name of fixative and length of time, if fixed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sample storage conditions and duration (especially for FFPE samples)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nucleic acid extraction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Procedure and/or instrumentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name of kit and details of any modifications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source of additional reagents used</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specify internal control</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PCR target information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name of target gene</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sequence accession number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coordinates according to accession number and length of amplicon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In silico specificity screen (BLAST), secondary structure analysis, sequence alignment; all are not necessary to show but author should indicate it has been done.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primer sequences, unless evaluating a commercial kit with proprietary information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primer/probe source</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PCR amplification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Primer/probe concentration given in µm in final reaction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master mix reagents (buffer, enzyme, Mg, dNTPs)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additives*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reaction volume</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complete thermocycling parameters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturer of qPCR instrument</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Controls included: NTC, internal control, amplification control</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analysis methods and software version</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Analytical performance characteristics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Limit of detection (LOD)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Efficiency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linearity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Range</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repeatability</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Diagnostic performance characteristics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>


* Include vendor/manufacturer.
APPENDIX B

Journal articles

More than 2 authors

In language other than English

In a supplement

Forthcoming


Errata/Corrigendum

Books

Chapter in a book

Book in a series

Other media

CLSI document
Conference proceedings (add page numbers and URL if available)

Dissertation/thesis (add URL if available)

European Commission

Newspaper article

Online database

Patent

Scientific report

URL
