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REVIEW

of the doctoral dissertation entitled "The usefulness of determinations of selected hormones, immunological, iron-dependent and oxidative stress markers in female dogs with pyometra and during recovery" by Anna Wdowiak.

Canine pyometra is an infection of uterus and is one of the most frequently occurring reproductive disease in female dogs. And if not treated it can result in animal death. For this reason, quick and accurate diagnosis of this disease is of main importance. However, by now diagnosis of pyometra is mainly based on general symptomatology and clinical history of the bitch as more expensive diagnostic methods, e.g. ultrasound, are not always available especially in small veterinary clinics. For this reason, there is a need of the reliable biomarkers that could help to diagnose and to evaluate the course of the treatment. Furthermore, in the current scientific literature, the importance of the use of non-invasive samples, as saliva, is studied for different diseases diagnosis and evaluation. Therefore, the dissertation performed by A. Wdowiak deals with a currently highly relevant topic in practice and it is both scientifically and practically important.

A. Wdowiak studied the behavior of a number of biomarkers related to inflammation, Fe-metabolism, sex hormones and oxidative stress in serum and saliva in bitches with pyometra and after ovariohysterectomy, the treatment of election in this disease. Furthermore, the same analytes were evaluated in the group of healthy dogs undergoing same procedures. The number of included animals (n=40) is adequate and,

