

BIOLOGICAL PROPERTIES OF STAPHYLOCOCCAL ANIMAL COMPANIES

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Dogs and cats, as the main pet, occupy a special place in human life. However, as carriers of various pathogens, they become reservoirs of human diseases of different etiology. In recent years, there have been increasing reports of antimicrobial-resistant forms of staphylococci in various European countries. Our purpose was to investigate domestic dogs and cats for *Staphylococcus aureus* and to study the biological characteristics of the selected strains.

Clinical research material was studied on the basis of the veterinary clinic "Multivet". From 19 dogs and 25 cats total 44 samples were isolated. Further manipulations were carried out in the Department of Microbiological Research of ULQSP of AIC of NULES of Ukraine. The following properties of *Staphylococcus* have been studied: growth on a solid medium (Beard-Parker agar), lecithinase activity, hemolytic activity, plasma coagulation reaction.

The presence of *Staphylococcus* strains was shown in 54% of samples. Only 25 cultures were isolated and investigated. For the study, samples were taken with sterile applicators and transferred into 7.5% nutrient salt broth and cultured for 24 h. for primary enrichment of culture. As a result of growth, uniform turbidity was formed with a small amount of white amorphous precipitate, which was easily broken during shaking. After that, they were transplanted into a dense Bear-Parker agar. On the Park-Parker agar, isolated cultures grew in the form of typical and not typical colonies. Typical colonies are black and gray, shiny and convex 1.0-2.5 mm in diameter, surrounded by a clear area. The atypical colonies were brilliant black with a narrow white margin and gray; the clear area was absent. Of these, 20 isolates showed lecithinase activity. 19 strains had hemolytic properties. Two strains coagulated plasma.

From the results obtained we can conclude that in pets widespread coagulase-negative *Staphylococcus* strains with hemolytic properties are present. In the future, it is planned to study the resistance of obtained isolates to antimicrobials and their ability to form biofilms.

