Development of an application for notification and spatial analysis of positive cases of Canine Visceral Leishmaniasis in the municipality of Araçatuba, state of São Paulo, Brazil

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The city of Araçatuba, São Paulo, is endemic for Visceral Leishmaniasis (VL), which affects mainly dogs and humans. Despite being a mandatory notifiable disease, it is suspected that there is an underreporting of cases in dogs to the Zoonosis Surveillance Unit by veterinarians, which makes it difficult to understand the epidemiological situation of Canine Visceral Leishmaniasis (CVL). Therefore, the objective of this project was to create an application (app) for these professionals to notify this disease in the city of Araçatuba and, thus, compare the occurrence of CVL, before and after the development and validation of this technological tool. The mobile app was developed using the Scrum methodology for software development and is compatible with Android and iOS devices. In addition to notification, this app also allows the collection of data on the geographic distribution of positive cases, generating a map of canine positivity for this disease. Furthermore, the diagnostic techniques used by professionals will be verified, as well as the presence of clinical signs observed in dogs. After conducting continuing education workshops for veterinarians from public and private institutions in Araçatuba, with the production of educational material, the application will be validated within a period of one year. Thus, the intention of this research will be to incorporate the use of the application into the city's zoonosis notification system and, based on the results obtained, to elucidate the epidemiological panorama, which may lead to the creation of public policies to control and combat LVC.

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