

Genus : Ehrlichia

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Species of *Ehrlichia* occurs variety of mammals, either singly or in groups called 'morula'. Small pleomorphic, coccoid to ellipsoidal, intracytoplasmic form in circulatory leucocytes . Organisms are transmitted by-

Ixodid tick, transtadial transmission but no transovarian transmission (will discuss in *Babesia*)

Ehrlichia bovis in cattle

E. canis in dog

E. equi in horse

E.ovina in sheep

E. phagocytophilia in cattle, sheep and goat

Tetracycline is susceptible for the organism.

Ehrlichia bovis:

Occur in mononuclear cells of cattle. Hyalomma species of tick transmitted disease is known as 'Nopi' or 'Nofel'.The disease causes anorexia, fever, incoordination, enlargement of lymph gland.

E. canis:

Causes canine ehrlichiosis or 'tropical canine pancytopenia'. Organism occurs in monocytes. Disease may be mild, but often is an acute febrile entity characterised by pancytopenia particularly thrombocytopaenia. Disease is often fatal. Transmitted by *Rhipicephalus sanguineus* transmits the organisms. This infection is commonly found in mixed infection with *Babesia canis* in dogs in India.

E. equi:

Causes equine ehrlichiosis. Clinical signs include

-fever

-anorexia

-incoordination

-oedema of leg

-disease is rarely fatal

-organism occurs in neutrophils and eosinophils

E.ovina:

Occurs in mononuclear cell of sheep. Transmitted by *Rhipicephalus bursa*, usually causes mild disease.

E. phagocytophilia:

It causes tick borne fever of sheep and cattle occurs in neutrophil and eosinophil and transmitted by *Ixodes ricinus* . Abortion may occur in pregnant animal.