This study describes the histopathological and immunohistochemical characteristics of 41 dogs with clinical signs of inflammatory bowel disease (IBD).

All animals had lymphoplasmacytic enteritis or lymphoplasmacytic enterocolitis. The most common lesions were crypt and lacteal dilation. Lymphoplasmacytic enteritis was shown immunohistochemically to be associated with abundant numbers of CD3+ T cells and CD45+ B cells in lamina propria, but there were significantly lower number of macrophages CD68+.

Polyclonal antibody against S100 protein reacted with a variable number of polymorphonuclear cells from lamina propria, as well as with epithelial cells of the crypts.

The presence of numerous stellate cells similar to follicular dendritic and interdigitating cells expressing S-100 protein in GALT suggested that these cells enhanced antigen presentation to B and T cells.