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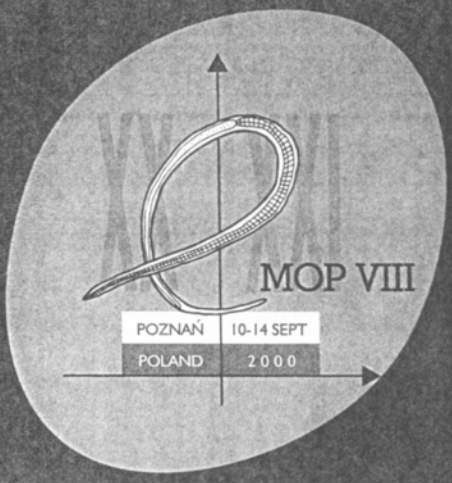

ABSTRACTS: VIII EUROPEAN MULTICOLLOQUIUM OF PARASITOLOGY

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Results: A total of 11 dogs, belonging to various breeds, entered the study. Eight (73%) of them were intact males and 3 (27%) intact females with an 1 to 8 years age range (mean: 3.8). One Group A dog responded poorly and died during the course of the trial, and another suffered a severe episode of esophagitis induced by accidental intraluminal ethanol injection; however this dog recovered uneventfully. At different times, during the 6-month follow-up period, 4/6 (66%) Group A dogs experienced complete resolution of clinical signs accompanied by a remarkable regression of nodules size (more than 50% of the initial), although parasitic ova were still found in 5/6 dogs (83%). In 4/5 (80%) Group B dogs, that responded in a similar way, a parasitic cure was also noticed. No significant difference was found between the two groups of dogs, regarding all the 3 evaluation criteria for the methods used.
Conclusions: These results may indicate that combined conservative treatment (ivermectin plus prednisolone) rather than sclerotherapy should be considered in the treatment of symptomatic and possibly asymptomatic esophageal spirocercosis. Sclerotherapy may be applied in the ivermectin sensitive breeds, though only clinical cure should be anticipated.

D4 01 Microsporidia in animals in close contact with humans

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Objectives: To improve our knowledge of the zoonotic role of microsporidia related to human microsporidiosis.
Methods: Fecal samples from dogs, pigs, and cats were studied. Sixty dogs were studied; 38 from pet owners and 22 from an animal shelter. Four of them showed diarrhea at the moment of the study (3 from the animal shelter and 1 from a pet owner). Fecal samples were also collected from 34 pigs from two geographic areas; 9 of them from Cáceres and 25 from Avila. Finally, fecal samples from 6 cats, 3 from pet owners and 3 from an animal shelter were examined. Search for ova and parasites included Chlorazol Black and Kinyoun stain, as well as chromotrope-based stain, to investigate microsporidia. Microsporidia species were investigated by PCR using species-specific primers.
Results: Seven dogs showed positive for *Enterocytozoon bieneusi*. Two of them showed diarrheic feces; one from a pet owner and one from the animal shelter. With reference to the pigs, 2 from Caceres and 3 from Avila were found positive for E.bieneusi and 4 from Avila for *Encephalitozoon intestinalis*. Only one cat from the animal shelter was found positive for *E. intestinalis*.
Conclusions: These results reinforce the idea of the ubiquity of *E.bieneusi*, as to date, it has been detected in rabbits, dogs, pigs, cats and surface water. However, to establish its zoonotic potential, further genotypic analysis is needed. It is noteworthy that, to our knowledge,these are also the first data of *E.bieneusi* found in diarrheic fecal samples from dogs.
(Supported by grants of the Fundación San Pablo-CEU: 6/98, 01/99).

D4 02 Intestinal parasites in dogs in Barcelona, Spain : zoonotic implications

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Objectives: The study of the parasitation by intestinal protozoa and helminths in stray and domestic dogs from urban and peripheric areas in Barcelona city.
Methods: 10 g of each 144 fecal samples from 99 dogs were collected during year 1999 and preserved in formaline. *Cryptosporidium* detection was achieved by using the modified Ziehl-Neelsen technique after the formaline-diethyl ether concentration method. Other protozoa were observed using the MIF-concentration technique. Eggs of helminths were investigated after concentration by sedimentation.
Results: The number of dogs parasitized by either protozoa or helminths was 29 (29.3%). Protozoa were present in 18 animals (18.2%) and helminths in 17 (17.2%). *C. parvum* oocysts were present in 14 dogs (14.1%). *Giardia duodenalis* cysts appeared in 9 animals (9.1%) and *Entamoeba* sp. in 3 fecal samples (3.0%). The most frequently detected helminths were ascarids (*Toxocara canis* 9.1% and *Toxascaris leonina* 3.0%). Other helminth species were *Ancylostoma canimum* (5.1%) and *Trichuris vulpis* (4.0%). Mixed parasitations by *Cryptosporidium* and *G. duodenalis*, by *Cryptosporidium* and *Entamoeba* sp., by *Cryptosporidium* and *T. canis*, by *T. leonina* and *T. vulpis* and *T. canis* and *A. caninum* were observed.
Conclusions: Among the protozoa and helminth parasitizing dogs in areas of the Barcelona city, *Cryptosporidium* and *T. canis* are important as causative agents of human parasitosis. The progressive increase of the canine population and its close relationships with humans are factors for being considered in the epidemiology of these zoonosis in this area.
(Study supported by the spanish project FIS 98/1370).

D4 03 Occurrence of *Toxocara cati* at cats raised in flats of Katowice city

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Objectives: *Toxocara cati* is common parasite of the cat. Highest value of extensity of the infection is observed in rural habitats and in populations of homeless cat in cities. Because of many possible sources of the infection *T. cati* occurs in cats raised in flats as well.
Methods: Coproscopic examinations of cats raised in Katowice were done in 1999 year. 258 cats, including 117 adult females, 86 adult males and 55 kitness (to 6 month of life) were examined.
Results: Highest extensity of infection with *T. cati* (18.1%) was observed in young animals. 6 of infected kitnes were brought by owners to flats as animals of unknown origins, others originated from litter of female raised in flat. Most probably all of them became infected by *T. cati* with lactogenic way. Extensivity of the infection in females was 13.7%. From among 16 infected animals 5 periodically profited from subterfuge so there was possibility of their infection by eating e paratenic host. In the group of males eggs of *T. cati* were found in faces of 9 animals (10.4% of total examined males), none of examined cats left a flat.
Conclusions: There was not observed relationship between animal race and infection with *T. cati*. Extensity of infection with *T. cati* in examined cats was low.

D4 04 Effect of three models of chemotherapy control against *Fasciola hepatica* in cattle in Mexico

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Objectives: To evaluate 3 models of chemotherapy control of *Fasciola hepatica* cattle in Veracruz, México.
Methods: Three groups (G) of 23 cows each received triclabendazole at 12 mg/kg. G-1 was treated in January (Sampling 1= S-1), G-2 in January, May and July, G-3 in January, May, August and October. Stool samples were collected from each animal 10 times every 45 days, in order to perform the egg count in 5 g faeces (epg). At the same time blood samples were collected to detect anti-*F. hepatica* antibodies using ELISA and to determine GGT and AST enzymes by spectrophotometry.
Results: The mean epg in positive and negative samples of G-1 changed from 0.5±0.2 in February to 21.1±3.0 in December (P=0.05). In G-2 the epg shifted from 0.2±0.1 in February to 17.5±3.6 in January S-10 (P=0.05). In G-3 the epg changed from 0.1±0.0 in February to 14.8±2.7 in January S-1 (P=0.05). The improvement percentage for epg in G-2 (25.8%) and the G-3 (49.6%) was higher than in G-1, which coincides with the lower GGT values detected in G-2 and G-3. Antibody levels seem not to be affected by the treatment in any of the groups.
Conclusions: G-3 with treatment in January, May, August and October was the best.
(Study supported by DGAPA, PAPIIT, IN 218996, UNAM).