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(Osoegawa et al., 2001). However, a precise diagnosis of these animal-borne ascarid infections is not always possible and an adequate anthelminthic therapy against these infections was not available. The lack of a comprehensive study using animal models for ascarid infections has also prevented progress in this field.

The Mongolian gerbil Meriones unguiculatus is known to be susceptible to a variety of parasites including Brugia pahangi (Ash & Riley, 1970), Strongyloides stercoralis (Nolan et al., 1993), Nippostrongylus brasiliensis (Horii et al., 1993), and Entamoeba histolytica (Chadee & Meerovitch, 1984). Akao et al. (2000) and Takayanagi et al. (1999) demonstrated that gerbils could serve as an animal model for ocular toxocariasis due to both T. canis and T. cati. The occurrence of retinal haemorrhages including larval invasion into the retina was found to be quite high compared with that in mice after oral inoculation of infective eggs. However, no information is available on the migration route, the final site of infection, or on the pathogenesis of ascarid larvae in gerbils. Here, we present our findings on the characteristic features of ascarid infections in gerbils as they relate to the pathogenesis of VLM in humans.

Materials and methods

Mongolian gerbils *Meriones unguiculatus* ranging between 2 and 3 months of age, were raised in the Animal Centre of Nippon Medical University and were maintained under pathogen-free conditions. Only male gerbils with black hair were used and all experiments were carried in accordance with the guidelines of the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee of Tokyo Medical and Dental University.

Recovery of ascarid eggs

Eggs of *T. canis* were obtained from the uteri of adult worms collected from faeces following the administration of anthelmintics to naturally infected puppies. Worms of *B. procyonis* were recovered from the intestine of infected racoons (Sato et al., 2002), and those of *B. transfuga* collected from the faeces of infected bears. Worms of *B. transfuga* were naturally expelled from bears during their fasting period just prior to hibernation. Adult worms of *A. suum* were obtained from slaughtered pigs and *A. lumbricoides* were collected after treatment with anthelmintics from naturally infected humans. Female worms of each species were isolated, and matured embryonated eggs were prepared following the method of Oshima (1961).

Fully embryonated eggs were treated with 50% hypochlorous acid for 10 min to remove their proteinous membranes. After repetitive washing with distilled water, 1000 eggs of each ascarid were inoculated into each gerbil through a gastric tube under light anaesthesia.

Recovery of larvae

After ophthalmological observations (Takayanagi et al., 1999), four gerbils from each group were sacrificed using sodium pentobarbital at predetermined intervals. One gerbil from each group was examined histopathologically

and the remainder were used for larval recovery from the gastrointestinal tract, liver, lungs with heart, and skeletal muscle including bone and genital organs except for the skin. The contents of the gastrointestinal tract were collected in a conical tube at 6 and 12h after inoculation. Each organ was minced and digested with artificial gastric juice (0.5% 1:10,000 pepsin, 0.7% hydrochloric acid) for 2 h at 37°C along with vigorous agitation. After digestion, the fluids were sieved with a tea strainer, and centrifuged at $320 \times g$ for 5 min. The supernatant was discarded and a small amount of distilled water was added to the tube. The sediment was then spread out on glass, and larvae in the fluid were counted using a stereoscopic microscope. Examination of the brain tissue was performed as follows: each brain including the olfactory bulb, cerebrum, cerebellum, and pons was enucleated and minced into small pieces (approximately 2 mm³) on a slide glass using forceps, and these were then covered with another slide glass. Migrating larvae were then counted using a microscope with eight or nine slide glasses being examined in each sample. Recovery rates were calculated from a mean of three gerbils at each period.

Histopathology

Tissue samples of liver, lungs, femoral muscle, brain, and gastrointestinal tract including the stomach, duodenum, ileum, caecum and rectum were fixed in 10% neutral formalin solution. Serial sections were prepared and stained with haematoxylin and eosin or periodic acid Schiff haematoxylin.

Results

Changes in the recovery rates of larvae from various organs after oral inoculation of the five ascarid species were recorded (fig. 1) and recovery rates arranged in the order of the migration route shown in fig. 2. In *Toxocara canis*-infected gerbils, almost all larvae were recovered from the intestinal wall up to 24 h after infection. Thereafter, larvae began to appear in the liver and lungs (by day 3), and then in the skeletal muscle and brain. The number of larvae in the muscle and brain were approximately equal. Macroscopically, haemorrhagic lesions which were observed in the lung 3, 5, 7 and 14 days after infection gradually disappeared. Ophthalmoscopically, a motile larva was observed in the retina 14 days after infection.

In *B. procyonis*- and *B. transfuga*-infected gerbils, the recovery rates of larvae were significantly lower than that in the case of *T. canis*. Both species of larvae had migrated into the lungs through the liver within 24 h after infection, and some had already arrived in the brain by this time, resulting in small haemorrhagic foci in the brain (fig. 3). With *B. procyonis*, ocular invasion by the larvae was observed and neurological disorders such as rotational and involuntary movement or paraplegia emerged, resulting in the mortality of gerbils between days 15 and 20 post-infection. Macroscopically, the gerbils exhibited fresh petechial haemorrhages of the lung 1 day after infection, but no new haemorrhagic lesions were evident beyond that time. Ophthalmic examination

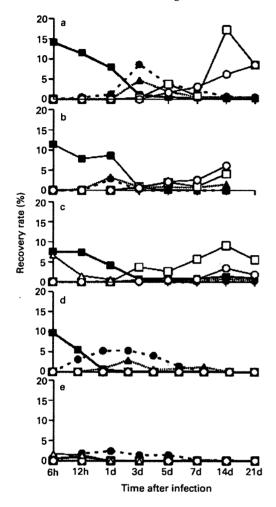


Fig. 1. Recovery rates (%) of larvae from various organs in gerbils after oral inoculation with five ascarid species up to day 21 post-infection. a, $Toxocara\ canis$; b, $Baylisascaris\ procyonis$; c, B. transfuga; d, $Ascaris\ suum$; e, A. lumbricoides; \blacksquare , gastrointestinal tract; \bullet , liver; \blacktriangle , lung and heart; \Box , muscles; \bigcirc , brain; \triangle , intestinal contents.

demonstrated motile larvae in the retina and severe chorioretinitis 7 days after infection. The number of migrating larvae of *B. procyonis* in the brain was higher than that of *B. transfuga*-infected gerbils at all times after the infection. By day 3 post-infection an average of 6.3 larvae (range 6–7) in *B. procyonis*-infected gerbils and 1.7 larvae (range 1–2) in *B. transfuga*-infected gerbils were found. By day 7, an average of 26.0 larvae (range 23–31) in *B. procyonis*-infected gerbils and 6.7 larvae (range 5–8) in *B. transfuga*-infected gerbils were recovered. Ophthalmic and neurological abnormalities were less severe than those observed with *B. procyonis*, although gait difficulty and circulatory movements in the same direction were presented by day 10 post-infection. The number of *B. transfuga* larvae in the skeletal muscle was higher than

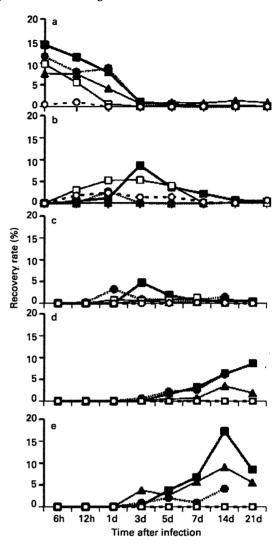


Fig. 2. Recovery rates (%) of larvae in gerbils after oral inoculation with five ascarid species to show the route of migration. ■, Toxocara canis; ●, Baylisascaris procyonis; ▲, B. transfuga; □, Ascaris suum; ○, A. lumbricoides; a, gastrointestinal tract; b, liver; c, lung and heart; d, brain; e, muscles.

that in the brain; i.e. an average number of larvae recovered were 37.7 (range 21–67) in muscle and 1.7 (range 1–2) in brain at the day 3 post-infection, and 91.0 (range 95–100) in muscle and 34.7 (range 24–49) in brain at the day 14 post-infection.

With A. lumbricoides, the average recovery rate of larvae after 6 h of infection was 2.3% (range 1.7–2.6%) compared with about 10% or higher in other ascarid parasites (14.1% in T. canis, 11.4% in B. procyonis, 16.3% in B. transfuga and 9.7% in A. suum; fig. 1a). Migrating larvae were present in the liver 12 h after infection, and remained there for up to 5 days after infection in the case of A. lumbricoides and

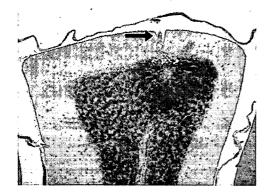


Fig. 3. A fresh haemorrhagic lesion in the granular layer of the cerebellum in gerbils 24h after infection with *Baylisascaris procyonis*; larva (arrowed) in the molecular layer of cerebellum immediately beneath the pia mater.

7 days in the case of *A. suum.* On day 7, haemorrhagic lesions in the lungs were the most prominent feature in gerbils infected with both species, although these lesions gradually disappeared and no larvae were recovered thereafter from any organ.

As far as the migration route is concerned, the highest recovery rate in the gastrointestinal wall occurred in T. canisinfected gerbils followed by B. procyonis-, A. suum-, and B. transfuga-infected gerbils 6h after infection. Larvae of both species of Ascaris immediately migrated away from the intestinal wall to the liver within 24 h after infection, with Toxocara and Baylisascaris larvae remaining there until the end of experiment. Ascaris lumbricoides larvae were minimally recovered from not only the gastrointestinal tract but also from other organs throughout the experiment. The recovery rate of ascarid larvae from the brain was high in the case of T. canis (3.1%) and B. procyonis (2.6%) at day 7 post-infection as compared with B. transfuga (0.7%), even though B. procyonis-infected gerbils did not survive until the end of the experiment. On the other hand, no A. lumbricoides larvae were found and only one A. suum larva was observed on day 7 post-infection. The recovery rate from skeletal muscles was high in the case of T. canis and B. transfuga, although the number of muscle stage larvae of B. transfuga was always higher than that in B. procyonis.

Discussion

Takayanagi *et al.* (1999) demonstrated that the Mongolian gerbil is a suitable animal model for ocular toxocariasis because of the high incidence of ocular invasion by the larvae. However, little is known about the migratory behaviour or pathogenesis of ascarid larvae in gerbils. In the present study, *T. canis* larvae migrated to the liver within 3 days after infection, and were thereafter distributed equally in skeletal muscles and the brain. These results are similar to those of Olson (1962) and Sprent (1952), suggesting that the migration route and final site of infection have little influence on the development of ocular toxocariasis in gerbils.

In the present study, B. procyonis larvae more so than B. transfuga were likely to accumulate in the brain and all

gerbils infected with B. procyonis died from severe neurological disturbances within 2 weeks after infection. On the other hand, gerbils infected with B. trasfuga survived throughout the duration of the experiment, despite exhibiting neurological disorders. The number of B. transfuga muscle stage larvae was always higher than in B. procyonis-infected gerbils. Sato et al. (2004) reported that the B. procyonis and B. transfuga larvae that had migrated into the brain of gerbils were larger than those of *T. canis*; however, no significant differences in larval size were observed between B. procyonis and B. transfuga. These results suggest that severe neurological disorders caused by B. procyonis could be attributed to the total amount of larvae in the brain. Additionally, these findings suggest that *B. procyonis* larvae may have a neurotropism, whereas B. transfuga larvae may have an affinity for muscular tissue. Further studies are needed to better understand the pathogenetic differences between B. procyonis and B. transfuga larvae in the brain of infected gerbils. Ophthalmologically, the lesions elicited by both species closely resembled each other although the incidence was extremely low in B. transfuga-infected gerbils. These results indicate that B. transfuga should not be used as an alternative parasite for studying diffuse unilateral sub-acute neuroretinitis induced by *B. procyonis* in gerbils (Akao et al., 2003).

In the present study, the infectivity of A. suum and A. lumbricoides in gerbils was very low, with migration to the central nervous system being minimal and no ophthalmological changes were found. Therefore, A. suum and A. lumbricoides are considered inappropriate parasites for studying ophthalmological and neurological disorders in gerbils. Severe to mild pulmonary haemorrhagic lesions were common in infected gerbils, although a complete healing of these lesions occurred in the case of A. suum and A. lumbricoides. Interestingly, no larvae were recovered from any organs of these gerbils beyond 14 days post-infection. Mouse models have shown a similar pattern (Slotved et al., 1997, 1998). To further document the migratory behaviour of A. suum and A. lumbricoides larvae in gerbils after 7 days of infection, the contents of the gastrointestinal tract were examined daily between days 8 and 13 post-infection because we assumed that the larvae might return to the intestine via the larynx and pharynx. However, no larvae were detected (data not shown), suggesting their rapid expulsion from infected gerbils.

Further studies are needed to more fully elucidate the migration behaviour and pathogenesis of *T. cati* so that we may potentially improve the therapy against this important zoonotic parasite of human VLM (Akao *et al.*, 2000; Fisher, 2003).

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Identification of Human Herpesvirus 6 in a Patient With Severe Unilateral Panuveitis

Human herpesvirus 6 (HHV-6) is a member of the HHV family and has been associated with immunodeficiency disorders and neurologic diseases. This widespread virus can be classified into 2 groups: variant A (HHV-6A) and variant B (HHV-6B). Although HHV-6B is the known causative agent in exanthema subitum, the association of HHV-6A with clinical entities is still unknown. We describe a patient with severe right-sided panuveitis and multiple subretinal lesions. The HHV-6A genome was detected in the ocular fluid of this patient.

Report of a Case. A 75-year-old man developed a sudden decrease in vision in the right eye in 2005. Slitlamp examination of the right eye disclosed ciliary hyperemia, moderate mutton-fat keratic precipitates, and severely inflamed anterior chamber cells with hypopyon. Funduscopic examination of the right eye revealed dense vitreous opacities, optic disc swelling, yellowish-white massive retinal lesions measuring approximately 1.5 optic disc diameters, and whitish retinal exudates (Figure 1). The left eye was normal. Results of all sys-

temic examinations, including serologic testing for human immunodeficiency virus, were negative, and results of serologic testing for HHVs (herpes simplex virus, varicella zoster virus, Epstein-Barr virus, cytomegalovirus, and HHV-6) were positive except for varicella zoster virus. On the basis of the ocular manifestations, a viral infection was suspected. After informed consent was obtained, an aliquot of aqueous humor and an aliquot of peripheral blood were collected and examined for further investigations. Immunoglobulin G for Toxocara larval excretory-secretory antigen in the aqueous humor and serum was detected using an anti-Toxocara antibody detection kit.⁴ A multiplex polymerase chain reaction demonstrated HHV-6 genomic DNA in both samples but not other HHVs (herpes simplex virus type 1 or 2, varicella zoster virus, Epstein-Barr virus, cytomegalovirus, HHV-7, or HHV-8). To acquire quantitative data, a real-time polymerase chain reaction was performed at different stages of the clinical course. In the acute phase with active inflammation, a high copy number for the HHV-6 DNA was detected in the samples (aqueous humor: 2.4 × 106 copies/mL; serum: 5.4 × 106 copies/ mL). Because the patient indicated that there was progression of intraocular inflammation, right eye di-

agnostic pars plana vitrectomy was performed. A high copy number for the HHV-6 genome was detected in the vitreous fluid, retinal membrane, and peripheral blood mononuclear cells. In addition, IgG for Toxocara larval excretory-secretory antigen in the vitreous was also detected. These data led us to make the diagnosis of panuveitis related to a Toxocara canis larva or an HHV-6 infection. Next we examined whether the HHV-6 infection was indicative of variant A or variant B. A high number of copies of HHV-6A was detected in the samples, and the HHV-6A genome decreased after antiviral valganciclovir hydrochloride treatment associated with systemic corticosteroids, whereas the HHV-6B genome was not detected (Figure 2). After treatment, funduscopic examination of the right eye revealed resolution of the vitreous opacities, optic disc swelling, and retinal exudates.

Comment. It is difficult to be certain whether HHV-6 was the causative agent in intraocular inflammation in this patient. Anti-Toxocara antibodies were also detected in serum and aqueous humor and vitreous samples, the significance of which is difficult to interpret. Another hypothesis could be that HHV-6 favored Toxocara-generated inflammation. However, the vi-

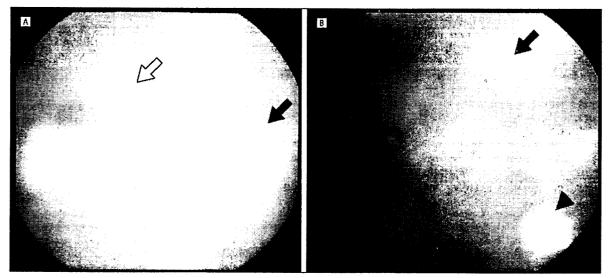


Figure 1. Fundus photographs of the right eye of a patient with a human herpesvirus 6 variant A infection. A, Whitish retinal exudates (white arrow), optic disc swelling (black arrow), and dense vitreous opacities are seen. B, Retinal yellowish-white massive lesions (black arrowhead) and optic disc swelling (black arrow) are seen.

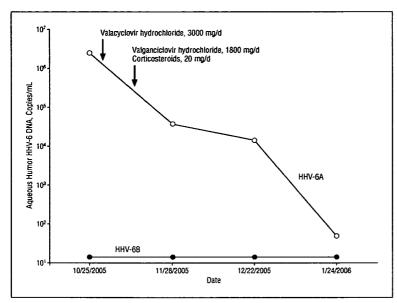


Figure 2. Serial measurement of aqueous humor human herpesvirus 6 variant A (HHV-6A) and variant B (HHV-6B) DNA levels by means of real-time polymerase chain reaction..

ral DNA and intraocular inflammation decreased in response to antiviral agents, suggesting that HHV-6A has some role in the pathogenesis of the ocular inflammation. To our knowledge, this is the first report of a case of HHV-6A associated with intraocular inflammation. These observations suggest that HHV-6A infection may have a role as a causative agent in severe intraocular inflammation.

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Severe Darkening of a Facial Skin Graft From Latanoprost

Latanoprost is a 17 phenyl–substituted analogue of prostaglandin $F_{2\alpha}$ (PGF_{2 α}), which decreases intraocular pressure by increasing uveoscleral outflow. Since its introduction as a topical eye medication, several authors have reported adverse effects, like subtle hyperpigmentation of periocular skin and eyelid-margin hyperemia. Herein, we present a case of a patient using latanoprost who developed severe darkening in a facial skin graft.

Report of a Case. A 68-year-old woman was diagnosed with primary open-angle glaucoma in September 2002. Topical latanoprost was commenced in both eyes, with a good control of intraocular pressure. In April 2005, a malignant melanoma was surgically excised from the left side of the patient's face and skin was grafted to this area from her neck behind the ear. Histology confirmed a low-risk, superficial, spreading malignant melanoma in situ, which was excised with adequate margins. In September 2005, severe darkening of the skin graft was noted together with subtle bilateral periocular hyperpigmentation and eyelid-margin hyperemia (Figure 1). Her medication was switched from latanoprost to topical brinzolamide in both eyes with a good control of the intraocular pressure. One month after stopping latanoprost, the skin graft had lightened significantly and the subtle bilateral periocular hyperpigmentation and eyelid-margin hyperemia had resolved (Figure 2).

Comment. Prostaglandins increase both melanocyte dendricity and melanin synthesis in the skin. Prostaglandin $F_{2\alpha}$ stimulates the activity and expression of tyrosinase, the ratelimiting enzyme in melanin synthesis, and the PGF_{2α} receptor has been shown to be up-regulated by UV radiation in melanocytes in vitro and in human skin in vivo.2 Researchers have shown how protein ase-activated receptor 2 in keratinocytes plays an $important\ role\ in\ skin\ pigmentation.$ Activation stimulates uptake of melanosomes through phagocytosis and also stimulates release of prostaglandin E1 and PGF2a, which stimulate melanocyte dendricity.3 Prostaglandins have also been implicated in postinflammatory skin hyperpigmentation.4

Significant lightening of the skin graft together with the resolution of subtle bilateral periocular hyperpigmentation and eyelid-margin hyperemia 1 month after stopping latanoprost implies that a local adverse drug reaction to latanoprost occurred in this patient. Absorption of latanoprost into facial skin is likely to occur from tear spillover during topical application. The severe dark-

□ CASE REPORT □

Unusual Radiological Findings of *Fasciola Hepatica* **Infection with Huge Cystic and Multilocular Lesions**

Takuya Maeda¹, Haruyasu Yamada⁴, Nobuaki Akao⁵, Mutsunori Iga¹, Tokiomi Endo³, Tomohiko Koibuchi², Tetsuya Nakamura³, Takashi Odawara³, Aikichi Iwamoto¹⁻³ and Takeshi Fujii²

Abstract

This report describes a case of hepatic phase *Fasciola hepatica* infection presenting huge and multilocular lesions. The unique radiological findings mimicked hydatid diseases and also cystic liver neoplasm. Fascioliasis should be included in the differential diagnosis for cystic liver diseases.

Key words: fasciola hepatica, fascioliasis, eosinophilia, cystic, abscess, dot-ELISA

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Introduction

Fascioliasis is a widespread infectious disease caused by trematode Fasciola hepatica (F. hepatica) infection (1). Although the radiological diagnosis of human fascioliasis has been improved, consideration of the possibility in the differential diagnosis is lacking in many developed countries. Typical computed tomography (CT) findings for hepatic phase of fascioliasis include small or sometimes clustered hypodense nodules and tortuous linear tracks, which are predominantly in subcapsular area (2, 3).

Here, we report a case with a unique hepatic phase fascioliasis. The patient was free from the symptoms, but presented uncommon radiological findings; a huge cystic lesion located in the middle of the liver together with peripheral multiloculated lesions.

Case Report

A 61-year-old Japanese man was referred to our hospital for the evaluation of migrating hepatic masses in November

2005. He had been involved in the construction of a power plant in Myanmar from January to November 2004. He had had a health checkup at a pre-consulted hospital in January 2005, and had undergone blood tests and abdominal ultrasonography (US) imaging. Although the clinical and laboratory findings were unremarkable except for peripheral blood eosinophilia (3,200/ml), the abdominal US imaging demonstrated multiple hypo-echoic lesions in right hepatic lobe, A contrast-enhanced CT scan showed multiple hypodense lesions in the right hepatic lobe. In the anterior segment of the right lobe, a huge and low attenuated mass measuring up to 57 mm with regular margins and some tiny hypodense lesions were detected (Fig. 1a, b). Thickening of the common bile duct or biliary dilatation did not exist. Although histological examination of the liver biopsy demonstrated the differentiatios from neoplastic lesions including intrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma or bile duct cystadenocarcinoma, the specimens were consistent with inflammation characterized by the presence of fibrotic changes and no sludge was drained. He was followed without any treatment and was referred to our hospital in November 2005.

On admission, physical examinations revealed only slight

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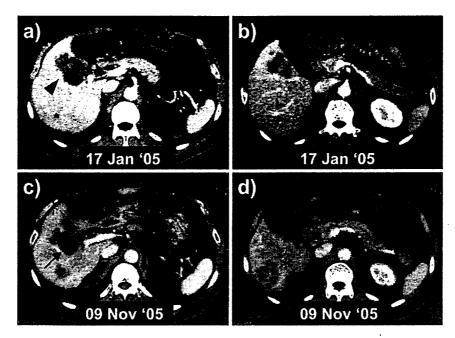


Figure 1. The contrast-enhanced CT image presented huge cystic and multilocular lesions. a, b) In the anterior segment of the right lobe, a huge and low-attenuated mass (arrowhead) and some tiny hypodense lesions were detected. c) The corresponding lesion in the anterior segment migrated into the center of the right lobe (arrow). d) A multilocular lesion (asterisk) was newly detected in the posterior segment of the right lobe.

hepatomegaly. Laboratory data showed the white blood cell count of 7,030/ml with a differential of 14.8% eosinophils. Serum IgE level was 438 U/ml (normal range; <250 U/ml). Neither ova nor larvae of any parasites were found in his stool. Contrast enhanced CT scans in November 2005, demonstrated mainly two types of masses in the right hepatic lobe. One of the masses, which had been detected in January but migrated during ten months, was located in the anterior segment and showed cyst-like hypodense lesion measuring up to 45 mm (Fig. 1c). The other mass, which could not be detected in January 2005, was located in the posterior segment and multiloculated (Fig. 1d). Because it was ineffective to distinguish between solid and cystic materials constructing these hypodense lesions with CT and ultrasonographic examinations, magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) was performed. The corresponding lesions proved to be hypointense on T1-weighted images (Fig. 2a), hyperintense on T2-weighted images (Fig. 2b, c), and extremely hypointensive foci on inverted diffusion-weighted images (Fig. 2d). These MR images suggested that these hepatic lesions consisted of necrotic or abscess-forming materials. MR cholangiopancreatography showed normal presentation.

The diagnosis was made by serologic tests. Because of the presence of eosinophilia and radiological changes of those lesions, we suspected that he suffered from some a type of parasitic infection. We conducted a screening test for parasitic antibodies in the patient's serum using a multiple dot enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (dot-ELISA) (4). The antibody against *F. hepatica* was strongly positive by

dot-ELISA. We also performed plate-ELISA and the ouchterlony double-diffusion test for confirmation. The ELISA titer for the antibody to *F. hepatica* was highly increased and the ouchterlony test showed a strong precipitin band against crude antigen of *F. hepatica* (Fig. 3). The antibody to *Echinococcus multiocularis* was negative in plate-ELISA. The patient was treated with triclabendazole (5). After 6 weeks, abdominal CT revealed a significant decrease in the size of the huge cystic lesion as well as the satellite lesions.

Discussion

F. hepatica is a trematode parasite that naturally infects cattle or sheep, and causes fascioliasis in almost every country around the world (1). Humans are an accidental reservoir host and could be infected by the ingestion of metacercarialaden water plants. The infected young fluke, hatched from metacercaria, migrates in the peritoneal cavity and penetrates through the liver to the bile ducts causing acute hepatic phase of fascioliasis. In the later stage, the fluke matures and lodges in the bile duct resulting in chronic biliary disorder. In the acute hepatic phase, most patients note right upper quadrant pain, fever and malaise with eosinophilia, but a few cases remain asymptomatic like the case presented here (6). Although the diagnosis of fascioliasis is fundamentally made by the detection of the ova or fluke in the bile duct or stool, it is difficult to obtain such evidence until the patient advances to the chronic biliary phase.

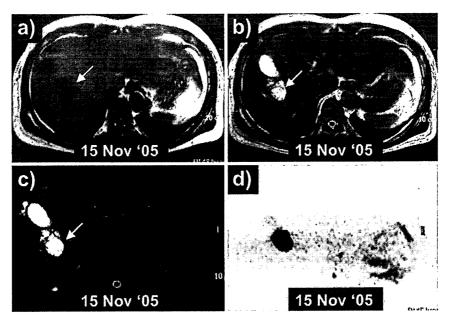


Figure 2. The corresponding MR image showed necrotic or abscess-forming lesions (arrows); a) T1-weighted images, b) T2-weighted images, c) fat-suppressed T2-weighted image, d) inverted diffusion-weighted images.

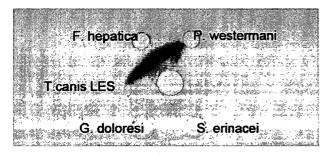


Figure 3. The ouchterlony double-diffusion test showed a strong precipitin band against crude antigen on Fasciola hepatica. The positions of antigens; F. hepatica, Fasciola hepatica; P. westermani, Paragonimus westermani; T. canis LES, Larval excretory and secretory antigen of Toxocara canis; G. doloresi, Gnathostoma doloresi; S. erinacei, Spirometra erinacei.

Typical CT findings for hepatic fascioliasis are nodular or tubular hypodense lesions up to 20-30 mm in diameter particularly in the subcapsular area (2, 7) because the infected form of metacercariae penetrates through the liver capsule and could cause subcapsular hemorrhage and frank hepatic necrosis before the biliary stage (8). However, some atypical radiographic findings have also been observed during acute or chronic fascioliasis (9, 10). In the present case, a huge abscess-forming lesion and asymptomatic physical presentations with eosinophilia mimicked hepatic unilocular hydatid disease (11) but that etiology is unknown. Usually, unilocular hydatid disease is caused by *Echinococcus granulosus*

infection that produces unilocular and huge cystic lesions without any obvious symptoms. Although Fasciola and Echinococcus are quite different parasites, these parasitic diseases may present similar radiological appearances. Kim and colleagues reported confusing radiological findings of fascioliasis exhibiting huge abscess lesions without eosinophilia (9). That lesion was considered as an abscess-forming lesion with distinct thick wall and therefore as chronic biliary phase fascioliasis. These radiological and laboratory findings were not exhibited in the present case of hepatic phase fascioliasis; therefore our case was different from those in previous reports.

In the past decade, substantial progress in the radiological diagnosis of human fascioliasis has been achieved and some reports on the MR imaging have been well documented (12, 13). Cevikol and colleagues (12) reviewed the MR observations of hepatic fascioliasis and classified them into five types. In their article, hypointense lesions on T1-weighted images and brightly hyperintense lesions on T2-weighted images could be classified as one of the type of lesion. However, the appearance of the lesions in our case, i.e., huge and multiloculated masses, was not referred to as a usual pattern of hepatic fascioliasis. Intrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma or biliary cystadenocarcinoma could demonstrate the same signal patterns on T1-weighted and T2-weighted images, but the diffusion-weighted image is quite useful to distinguish solid neoplasms and necrotic cysts caused by fascioliasis as in the present case (14). Bacterial abscess also shows similar MR images, therefore, it is not possible to confirm the diagnosis based on MR images and thus examinations of other laboratory findings, serology and aspiration specimens are necessary.

In conclusion, we emphasize here that hepatic fascioliasis can present a variety of lesions in the liver and huge cystic liver masses can also be produced. It is important to keep these findings in mind.

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臨床検査に必要な 寄生虫感染症の知識

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糞便検査は必要か?

わが国では寄生虫感染症がなくなってしまい, もはや臨床検査技師にとって寄生虫に関する知識 は必要ないと考えている人はいないだろうか. 寄 生虫卵の検査依頼があった時には外注に出してし まってはいないだろうか. マラリア原虫のように みえるけれど, 自信がない. 寄生虫について身近 に相談する人もいないので, できれば自分では検 査はしたくない. そんな人はいないだろうか.

図1は、東京都予防医学協会が2007年に発行した年報に掲載されていたデータをもとに作成した、1949年からの寄生虫検査依頼数と陽性率の推移を示したものである。これをみると、寄生虫に感染している人の割合は1968年に1%を割り、検

査数も 1974 年には前年と比べて 1/3 に激減している. これは 1973 年に学校保健法が改正され、中学生の寄生虫検査の義務化が廃止されたことによる影響が大きいと推測される¹⁾. この法律が制定された背景には、寄生虫感染者の長期減少傾向があってのことだと思われる. そして、とうとう2002 年以降は糞便検査さえ行われなくなってしまった. もはや東京では、寄生虫に感染している人数を知るすべはなくなってしまったのである. それでも、2000 年には 2,110 件の検査を行い0.09%の陽性者、すなわち 20 名の糞便内に何らかの虫卵を発見したことを年報は語っている.

この 20 名という数字が、衛生観念の発達した現在の日本社会において、多いか少ないかはさて

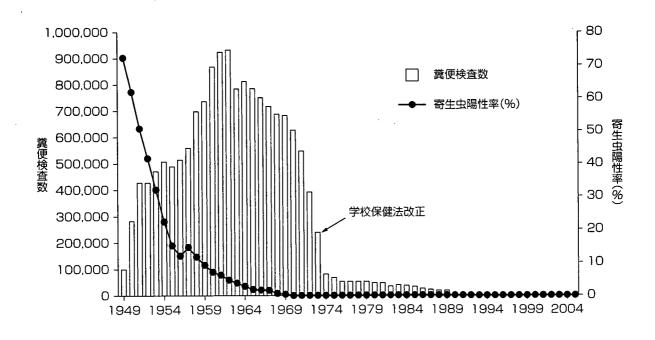


図 1 東京都予防医学協会に依頼のあった寄生虫検査成績1)

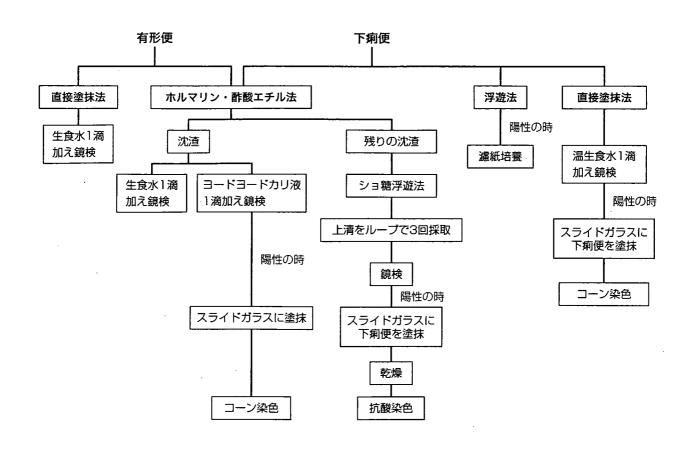


図 2 当分野で実施している糞便検査要領

おいて,この人達が何かの病気になって病院を訪れた時に,主治医が「糞便の寄生虫検査をしてみよう」と考えたとしたら,その検体があなたのところにやってきたかもしれない.

海外へ出かける日本人は年間 1,700 万人をこえている. 出かける先も世界中にわたっている. これらの国中には、いまだ寄生虫感染症が猖獗を極めているところがたくさんある. また、航空機を使えば地球の反対側からも 24 時間以内で日本に戻ってくることができる. 寄生虫を媒介する蚊ぐ ダニが飛行機にのって密入国する機会などいらでもありそうである. さらにまた、海外からは短期旅行者だけでなく、長期間滞在する在留外国人の方も 150 万人以上にのぼっているといわれている. 日本ではもはやみられなくなった寄生虫に感染している人がいるかもしれない.

寄生虫感染症の診断の基本は、寄生虫それ自身

をみつけて同定することである。寄生虫はウイルスや細菌と違って虫卵を産む.感染するとヒトは、寄生虫に対して抗体を産生する。もちろん、産卵などしない原虫や抗体産生が悪い寄生虫感染症もある。何事にも例外はあるが、いずれにしても、ムシ自体をみつける以外に、寄生虫感染症では虫卵をみつけたり感染の間接的な証拠である抗体を検出したりすることによって診断していくことになる。

臨床検査技師にとって必要な寄生 虫感染症の知識とは何か?

医学の他の分野と同様、寄生虫学の分野でも 10年前の教科書と最新のものとを比べてみると、 その内容の変化に驚かれると思う.これまでな かった寄生虫(旋尾線虫や Entamoeba dispar、日 本海裂頭条虫など)や寄生虫ではなく真菌ではな

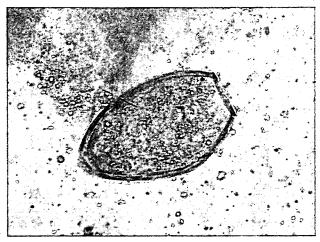


図 3 胸水の沈渣からみつかったウエステルマン肺吸虫卵

いかといわれるようになってきたニューモシスチス, Wolbachia やレジオネラ菌のように寄生虫の中に共生あるいは寄生する細菌が病原性に深くかかわっているなど、旧来の知識のままでは正しい判断すらできない状況になってきている.

臨床検査技師にとって必要最低限の寄生虫感染症の知識とは,個々の寄生虫の生活史や形態,感染経路を覚えることも必要だろうが,それよりも目の前にある検体からどのようにして正しい情報を引き出すか,そのためには何をして,何が必要なのかを体系づけて理解しておくことだと考えている.

糞便検査を依頼されたらどうする か?

糞便にもいろいろ形状がある. ウサギのような 硬い糞便, 白い便, 水のような便, 粘液の混じっ た便, チョコレート色をした便などである. この ようにいろいろな便の性状や色を呈するには病態 生理学的な必然性がある. 図2に, 虫卵検査を依 頼された時に私達が実施している検査方法をあげ ておく.

肺吸虫症を例にあげて考えてみよう. 肺吸虫の 感染は, 第二中間宿主に寄生しているメタセルカ リアの経口摂取によって起こる. 第二中間宿主に なるものとしては, サワガニやモクズガニ, アメ リカザリガニがある. 冬場の味覚として珍重され



図 4 粘血便の患者からみつかった赤痢アメー バ栄養型

る上海ガニはモクズガニの仲間で、上海ガニの老酒漬けを食べて感染した例が国内でも報告されている $^{2)}$. メタセルカリアを摂取後、 2 カ月ほど経つと肺症状が出現する.

肺吸虫の疑いがある患者さんの検査の依頼があり、糞便が届いた.直接塗抹法では虫卵がみつからない.集卵法の一つであるホルマリン・酢酸エチル(遠心沈殿)法で集卵を行ってみた.しかし、虫卵はみつからない.どうしたらよいだろう.「虫卵は降性」と検査結果を返すだけではいけない.喀痰や、もしも胸水貯留があるのなら、それも検査する必要がある.喀痰の検査では粘液溶解剤を加えて遠心する.胸水は、そのまま遠心して鏡検すると虫卵がみつかることがある(図3).それでも何もみつからない時はどうすればよいのだろうか.次章をお読みいただきたい.

もう一つ例をあげておく. アメーバ赤痢の症例が猛烈な勢いで増えてきている. 1999 年に感染症法が改正され,赤痢アメーバ症が全数把握の五類感染症に指定されてから 2005 年までの統計をみても,患者数は 1999 年の 278 名から 698 名と約2.5 倍の増加が報告されている. 赤痢アメーバ症では,いわゆる粘血便をみる腸アメーバ症と,肝臓に膿瘍を形成する肝アメーバ症が多くみられる.

粘血便の中に生きた赤痢アメーバの栄養型をみつけ出すためには、検体をできるだけ早く検査し

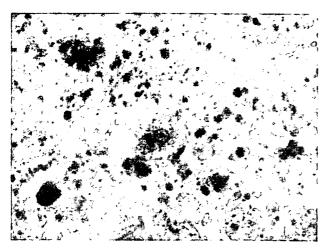


図 5 図 4 の検体のコーン染色標本

なければならない.それができない時には,「人肌」に温めながら検体を検査室まで運んでもらうように依頼する.そして,今度はホルマリン・酢酸エチル法ではなく,粘血便を爪楊枝などですくい取り,温めた生理食塩水をのせたスライドガラスの上にのせて鏡検する.この時,400倍の倍率で,あまり急いで視野を動かさずゆっくりとみていく.赤痢アメーバの栄養型に比べてその動きは緩慢で,あまり早く視野を動かしすぎると見逃してしまう.動くアメーバの中に赤血球をみつけることができれば,それが病原性をもつ赤痢アメーバの栄養型である(図4).

後日の確認のためにも、スライドガラスに粘血便を薄く塗抹して、コーン染色を施して永久標本を作っておく必要がある(図5). 肝膿瘍液も同じように検査するが、栄養型がみつからない場合でもシャルコライデン結晶がみつかる場合がある(図6). このような時には赤痢アメーバ症の疑いが非常に高いので、慎重に検査をしなければならない.

糞便検査が役に立たない寄生虫感 染症

糞便検査がまったく役に立たない寄生虫感染症 もある. ヒト本来の寄生虫にもかかわらず糞便内 に虫卵が出てこない旋毛虫症や, 組織侵入性のあ

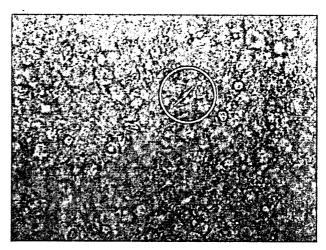


図 6 肝アメーバ症患者の膿瘍液からみつかっ たシャルコライデン結晶 (円内)

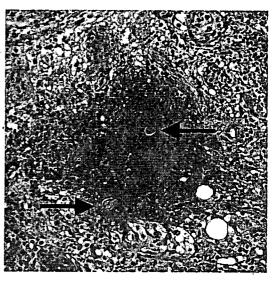


図7 トキソカラ症患者の皮膚痒疹の生 検で発見されたイヌ回虫幼虫断端 (矢印)

る寄生虫である.とくに,動物由来の蠕虫類寄生虫がヒトに感染した場合には,ヒトの身体の中では成熟することができないので,決して虫卵はみつからない.肺吸虫症や赤痢アメーバ症も,虫卵や栄養型がみつからない場合がある.その時は,血清中の抗体検査を行って感染の有無を推測する.しかし,寄生虫感染症の抗体検査はある異につない。あまり結果を重要視しすぎると思わぬ失敗をすることがある.マラリアやフィラリアなどの一部の寄生虫感染症については,血液中の抗原を検出できるキットも市販されている.

寄生虫感染症の抗体検査でもっとも大切なのは、抗体検出に使った抗原が特異性の高いものかどうかという点である。たとえばイヌ・ネコ回虫症では、原因となるイヌやネコの回虫の幼虫が $400\times20\,\mu\text{m}$ と非常に小さいので、病理組織検査で発見するのはよほど運のよい場合に限られる(図7)。そのため、しばしば血清抗体検査が行われるが、使用する抗原が成虫由来の虫体抗原では、他の寄生虫抗原との間で非特異反応が強く出てしまう。ヒトの身体に侵入している形である幼虫の排泄物を抗原とした検査では、このような反応を低くおさえることができる 3

経験と知識の伝承―寄生虫の輪

寄生虫卵や原虫などは、一度でもみたことがあれば自信をもって同定することができると思う.しかし、今まで一度もみたことがないものを同定するのはむずかしいものである.研究会や講習会に積極的に参加して、寄生虫感染症の「トレンド」を把握することも大切である.他人のもっている知識を自分のものにするとともに、自分の経験を積極的に公開してゆくことは、正しい診断のもとに治療の開始を待ち望んでいる患者さんにとっても利益になることだと思う.

あなたの身近に寄生虫感染症に精通した人をみつけることができなくても大丈夫です.日本寄生虫学会では,医療専門家からの質問に答えるシステムを学会ホームページ (http://jsp.tm.nagasaki-u.ac.jp/)に開設しています.これまでに寄せられた質問のなかでよくあるものについてはすでに公開が始まっており,また,これまでに寄せられたすべての質問とそれに対する回答は,データベース化してもうすぐ公開される予定です.さらに,ご自身で経験された寄生虫に関する質問についても随時受け付けていますので,ぜひ利用してみて下さい.

臨床検査技師の資格を得る前の学生時代,寄生 虫卵をはじめて顕微鏡でみた時に「美しい」とひ そかに思った人であれば,誰もが「寄生虫の輪」 に加わることができると筆者は思っている.

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感染症学各論 V. 特 論

感染症に及ぼす地球温暖化の影響

Effect of global worming on infectious diseases

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Key words : 地球温暖化, 熱帯感染症, 節足動物媒介感染症

はじめに

近年,世界各地で異常気象が注目されている. 国内では、2004年の年平均気温の上昇が観測 史上第2位を記録,東京では真夏日が40日連 続して多くの熱中症患者の発生が報告されたの はまだ記憶に新しい. また, この前年の2003 年夏に欧州を襲った熱波では、パリの高齢者を 中心に多数の死者が出た. 気象庁によれば, 1998-2004年の間に年平均気温の上昇が2℃以 上であった地域は圧倒的に北半球に多く、熱帯 地域ではむしろ平年並みであった地域が多かっ たとされている.

いずれにしても年平均気温の上昇が短期、中 期. 長期的変動によるものなのか, 昨今国際社 会が危惧している各種温室効果ガスの大気中へ の蓄積によって地球温暖化が加速度的に進行し ていることが異常気象の主因であるかは、この 問題の門外漢である著者らには不明である。し かし、このような地球温暖化がたとえ10年単 位でも持続すれば、現在の熱帯地域を中心に生 息している病原生物およびその伝播に関与する 媒介生物などの生息域が温帯地域にまで拡大さ れることが懸念される".

'気候変動に関する政府間パネル(Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change: IPCC) 'は、 2100年頃までに地球の年平均気温が 1.4-5.8℃

上昇すると予測している. これは等温線が極方 向へ210-640km ほど移動することを意味して おり、最大で那覇市がほぼ宮崎市の位置に、ま た宮崎市が福島市の位置にまで移動することと 同じであると見積もられている. 更に年平均気 温だけでなく、冬季における最低気温も上昇す ると考えられている.

その結果、このような地球規模の温暖化によ って感染症の蔓延が懸念されており、IPCCの 第2分科会では気候の変化が感染症に及ぼす影 響について報告書を提出した』、そこで、本稿 ではこの報告書を基に、 地球温暖化が感染症に 及ぼす影響について解説する.

1. 感染症流行に及ぼす諸因子

気温や湿度,降雨量,海水面の上昇といった 気候の変動は感染症の伝播に影響を与えると誰 もが考えているが、これらの要因が媒介動物由 来感染症(vector-borne infectious diseases) に どのように関与しているかを解明することは容 易ではない。媒介動物感染症の発生件数や地理 的分布に与える要因には気候の変動のみならず 社会学的要因や人口動態学的要因も複雑に絡み 合っており、媒介動物の個体数が増加してその 生息域を拡大したからといって感染症による死 亡率が単純に上昇するわけではない.

感染症の伝播には病原体とそれを保有する宿

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主(reservoir host), 更に病原体を運搬する媒介動物が同じ時空間に十分量存在しなければならない. これが更にヒトへと感染するためには, 人口密度や居住様式とその環境, ヒトの行動様式, 上水道の普及率, 廃棄物処理システム, 土地の利用形態, 灌漑設備の有無, 行政による媒介動物コントロールプログラムが有効に機能しているか否かといった環境衛生面の様々な因子もまた深くかかわっている.

更に、人口の増加や急激な都市化、戦争などによる開発途上国における公衆衛生基盤の崩壊、ヒトとモノの国境を越えた移動、ヒトと動物の関係の変化などは近年における感染症流行のとりわけ大きな要因となっており、気候変動因子はこれらの因子に比べると直接的な影響は限られている。しかし、気候変動における影響は地球規模に及び、開発途上国のみならず先進国にも深刻な影響を与え得る。

2. 感染症流行に及ぼす気候要因

地球温暖化による熱帯感染症の流行は、その多くが特定の動物によって媒介される媒介動物由来感染症としての側面をもっている.これらの媒介動物が温暖化の影響で越冬が可能となり、その生息域を拡大し、それにつれて疾病流行域も拡大することが予測される.例えば、気温の上昇は媒介動物の個体数の増加とともに、空間的季節的分布域の拡大を招き、これが更に媒介動物とヒトとの接触の機会を増加させる.病原体にとっては、媒介動物体内での生存期間が延びることによる疾病流行期間の延長と流行域の拡大が懸念される.

降雨量の増大は媒介動物の生息環境を質的にも量的にも拡大させるであろう。例えば、住血吸虫症の流行地において洪水が発生すると、その下流域では感染貝の新たな繁殖地が出現する可能性がある。高温多湿は媒介動物の繁殖に有利に作用し、多湿はハマダラカ体内におけるマラリア原虫の発育を助長するという研究がある。

ネズミの尿中に病原体が排泄されるレプトス ピラ症では、洪水によって病原体を含む排泄物 の拡散が考えられる.また、上水道の完備して いない開発途上国では、降雨量が減少すると飲料水を確保するために瓶などに水を貯蔵しておく機会が増えるであろう. これらの貯水容器内ではデング熱を媒介するネッタイシマカなどの蚊類が繁殖する. 逆に、干ばつが起これば感染症を媒介する貝は減少すると予想される^{2,3)}.

3. 温暖化により流行拡大が懸念される 感染症

このように、気候要因のうち平均気温の上昇と降雨量の増加、最低気温の上昇が感染症流行に最も影響を与える。表1に地球温暖化によって流行の拡大が懸念される感染症とその媒介動物をあげた。以下、代表的な疾患について解説する。

a. デング熱

デング熱はフラビウイルス属のデングウイルスによって起きる感染症で、4種の血清型が知られている。症状からデング熱とデング出血熱を区別する。感染はヤブカ(Aedes)属の蚊によって媒介される。なかでもネッタイシマカ(A. albopictus)はウイルス媒介能が高く重要な媒介蚊である。

ヒトスジシマカは国内にも広く分布しているが、ネッタイシマカの生息は確認されていない。 津田ら(2001年)の長崎市内における実験では、 3月に戸外においたヒトスジシマカの幼虫の半 数近くは長崎の低温期を生き抜き外気温が10 ℃以上になる4月になると成虫にまで発育したが、これ以外の時期ではすべて死亡したという。また、ネッタイシマカでは発育零点(理論上幼虫の発育が停止する温度)が更に高く、現時点では国内でネッタイシマカが繁殖する可能性はないと述べている。しかし、年平均気温が5℃上昇し、最低気温が10℃を下回らないほど温暖化が進めば、ネッタイシマカが定着することは十分考えられる。

現在,デング熱患者の発生地域は熱帯アジア, 南太平洋,中南米,アフリカ諸国の100カ国以 上にも上り,エルニーニョ現象が起きると気温 が上昇し,蚊が増加して発生率が高くなる.

デング出血熱は1950年代にデング熱が流行

| 地球温暖化によって蔓延するおそれのある節足動物媒介感染症

	略樂距名	,病原体	媒介動物	重要種	ヒトへの感染経路	ヒト以外の宿主
ウイルス性疾患	黄熟	黄熱ウイルス	ヤブカ属	ネッタイシマカ	蚊→ヒト(吸血)	サ ル
	デング熱	デングウイルス	ヤブカ属	ネッタイシマカ, ヒトスジシマカ	蚊→ヒト(吸血)	とトのみ
	リントバレー熱	リフトバレー熱ウイルス	イエカ,ヤブカな	イエカ,ヤブカなど多くの種類の蚊	蚊→家畜→ヒト (解体時の飛沫感染)	ヒッジ(本来の宿主), ウシ
リケッチア性疾患	発疹チフス	発疹チフスリケッチア	といい。	コロモジラニ	ヒトシラミ→ヒト (刺咬) シラミ糞便→ヒト (創傷感染)	4647
寄生虫性疾患	マラリア	Plasmodium 属原虫	ハマダラカ属蚊	シナハマダラカ	蚊→ヒト(吸血)	ድ ኑ ወ ઋ
	リーシュマニア症	Leishmania 属原虫	サシチョウバエ		サシチョウバエ →ヒト(吸血)	イス, ネコ, ネズミなど
	アフリカトリパノソーマ症	Trypanosoma gambiense, T. rhodesiense	ツェツェバエ		ツェツェバエ →ヒト(吸血)	ブタ, (T.g), ガゼル などの野生動物(T.r)
	アメリカトリパノソーマ症	Trypanosoma cruzi	サシガメ		サシガメ糞便 →ヒト(創傷感染)	イヌ, ネコ, アルマ ジロなど
	糸状虫症	バンクロフト糸状虫	多くの種類の蚊	アカイエカ	杖→ヒト(吸倒)	とトのみ
		レレー糸状虫	多くの種類の蚊	トウゴウヤブカ	数→ヒト(吸血)	サル,イス,ネコ
		回旋糸状虫(オンコセルカ)	7 4	Simulium 属	プユ→ヒト(吸血)	ヒトのみ
		ロア糸状虫	7 7	Chrysops 属	アブ→ヒト(吸血)	ድ ኑ ወ 좌
		常在糸状虫	ヌカカ		ヌカカ→ヒト(吸血)	ヒトのみ

していたフィリピンとタイから初めて報告された. その後1970年までは9カ国からしか報告がなかったが、現在では40カ国以上の国で患者の発生をみている. WHOの報告では、全人類の40%が感染のリスクに曝され、毎年5千万人が罹患しているという. また、2001年だけで南北アメリカ各国から60万人以上の感染者が報告され、うち1万5千例がデング出血熱であった. これは1995年の報告と比べると患者数は2倍の増加であった. このようにデング熱は過去数年、急激にその感染域を広げつつある.

1)症 状

デング熱はインフルエンザに似た熱性疾患で、3-14日(通常5-7日)の潜伏期間後突然の発熱で発症する. 発熱は3-5日間続き(しばしば二峰性),頭痛,眼窩痛,関節痛を伴い,発症後しばらくすると体幹部,胸部を中心に発疹が出現し,四肢,顔面へと広がるが,通常1週間で何ら後遺症を残すことなく回復する. しかし,幼児では症状が重い場合がある. 4種血清型のデングウイルスの1種に感染し回復すると,同じ血清型のデングウイルスに対しては終生免疫を獲得するが,残り3種の血清型ウイルスに対してはほとんど交差反応を示さず,デング出血熱の発症リスクを高めるという報告さえある.

デング出血熱はデング熱と同様の経過で発症 した患者が急激な体温上昇と顔面紅潮のあと突 然の出血傾向と循環不全状態に陥る病態で,肝 腫大もみられ、適切な治療が施されない場合, 患者は急速にショック状態に陥り半日から1日 以内に死亡することもある.

2)診断

血清中のデングウイルスに対する IgM 抗体を検出する. この診断キットは国内でも入手可能である.

.3) 治療

デングウイルスに対する特異的な治療法はなく、対症療法および脱水予防が中心となり、抗血小板作用のあるアスピリン類の投与は禁忌である. デング出血熱の場合も同様であるが、循環血液量減少を補完するための輸液療法が重要である. また血小板減少がみられるときには血

小板輸血も考慮する.

b. 黄 熱

デング熱と同じフラビウイルスに属する黄熱ウイルスによって起きる熱性出血性疾患で、主にネッタイシマカによって媒介される。森林型黄熱、都市型黄熱、中間型黄熱の3つの流行形式に区別される。アフリカの熱帯雨林地方では3つの型すべてが、また南アフリカでは森林型と都市型の流行がみられる。

森林型黄熱は熱帯雨林に生息するサルと蚊(主要媒介蚊はA. africanus)の間で流行サイクルが回っているが、木材などの切り出しのために森林に入ったヒトが偶然に感染し、多くは散発例として報告される。中間型はアフリカ中央部に分布するサバンナ気候区の農村部で流行がみられ、ヒトとサルの両方に感染が起こっており、近年患者が増加している。都市型は都市の生活用水、水たまり、雨水で繁殖する昼間吸血性のネッタイシマカが媒介し、ヒト→蚊→ヒトの感染経路をとり、しばしば大規模な流行を起こす。

1) 症 状

潜伏期間は3-6日.発症後の経過によって軽症黄熱と重症黄熱に分けられる.軽症黄熱では発熱,背部痛,頭痛,振戦,食欲不振,嘔気・嘔吐がみられる.発熱しているのにもかかわらず徐脈を呈する場合がしばしばみられる.3-4日で完全に回復する.

黄熱の患者のうち15%ほどが24時間以内に 重症黄熱に移行する. 黄疸が急速に悪化し, 歯 肉出血, 鼻出血, 下血, 結膜出血がみられる. 更には蛋白尿がみられ, 腎不全が進行し, つい には乏尿となる. 2週間以内に半数の患者は死 亡するが, 残りの患者は重篤な後遺症もなく回 復する.

2)診断

血清中の黄熱ウイルスに対するIgM抗体の 検出、PCR法による病原体遺伝子の検出、ペア 血清を用いた中和抗体法による抗体価の陽転の いずれかによって診断を確定する。ウイルス分 離は発症後3日以内の血液を用いて行われるが、 設備の整った施設で熟練した技術者によって行

	病原体が生存可能 な最低気温(℃)	病原体が生存可能 な最高気温(℃)	媒介動物	媒介動物が生存可能 な最低温度(℃)
熱帯熱マラリア	16-19	33-39	ハマダラカ	8-10
三日熱マラリア	14.5-15	33-39	ハマダラカ	8-10
アメリカトリパノソーマ症	18	38	サシガメ	20
住血吸虫症	14.2	>37	淡水産貝	5(最適範囲 25±2)
デング熱	11.9	データなし	ヤプカ	6-10

表2 節足動物媒介感染症流行に及ぼす気温の影響(文献*より改変)

わなければならない. 黄熱は四類感染症であり, 診断した医者は届出が義務づけられている.

鑑別診断としては、マラリア、腸チフス、発 疹チフスなどのリケッチア感染症、ラッサ熱な どウイルス性出血熱、デング熱、レプトスピラ症、ウイルス性肝炎、薬物中毒などがあげられる.

3)治療

特異的な治療方法はなく、対症療法のみである。それゆえ、黄熱の流行国への入国に際しては10年以内のワクチン接種が義務づけられている。黄熱ワクチンの効果は99%終生免疫が得られるが、生後9カ月以下では投与せず、4カ月以下は禁忌である。

c. マラリア

人体に寄生するマラリア原虫には三日熱マラ リア原虫、四日熱マラリア原虫、卵形マラリア 原虫,熱帯熱マラリア原虫の4種類あり、いず れもハマダラカ(Anopheles)属の蚊によって媒 介され固有のマラリアを起こす。年間3-5億人 が感染し、毎年200万人以上が死亡している. 死亡者の多くはサハラ砂漠以南に暮らすアフリ カの幼小児である. また, 流行地を旅行する非 流行国からの旅行者にとっても危険な感染症で あり、治療が遅れると死亡する。形態学的な分。 類では、世界中には50種類ほどのハマダラカ が分布しているが,同胞種も独立種として数え ると 400 種類近くのハマダラカ属のうちマラリ アを媒介するものは約90種類に上る.しかし. 流行地における媒介蚊は1,2種類に限定され ていることが多い.例えば,かつて日本にもマ ラリアが流行していた時期があり、このときの 主要な媒介蚊はシナハマダラカであった. また,

1951 年米国からマラリアが駆逐されるまでの 主要な媒介蚊は A. freeborni と A. quadrimaculatus であったという.

マラリア原虫はハマダラカの体内で有性生殖を行い、ヒトへの感染源となるスポロゾイトを形成するが、その発育は気温の影響を受け、16 で以下では発育できないといわれている(表 2). これはほぼ現在の宮古八重山諸島の平均最低気温に匹敵する. 温暖化が進めば鹿児島県南部がこの気温になると予想されている.

マラリアは感染症新法の四類感染症として扱われ、診断した医師は届出を要する疾患に指定されている. 国内においては平成11年からの6年間の届出数は686例で、そのうち297例が悪性の熱帯熱マラリアであった. デング熱、黄熱も四類感染症で届出が必要である.

1) 症 状

発熱,貧血,脾腫を三大主徴とする.特有の熱発作は第5病日頃からみられ,病因原虫の赤血球内での分裂周期に一致して三日熱マラリアと卵形マラリアでは48時間ごと,四日熱マラリアは72時間ごとの周期熱となるが,熱帯熱マラリアでは原虫の発育周期に同調せず熱型不規則な高熱が持続する.しかし,他のマラリアでも発病の初期や他種マラリアとの混合感染時には熱型が規則的ではない例もある.

発熱は40-41℃に達し、頭痛、背部痛を伴う (灼熱期). 発熱の直前には悪寒戦慄を覚える (悪寒期). 次いで大量の発汗が2,3時間続い たあと急速に解熱する(発汗期). これを熱発作 といい8-12時間で症状は消失する(無熱期).

潜伏期間はマラリアの種類によって異なる. 三日熱マラリアと卵形マラリアでは1-2週間.