

Occurrence of *Taenia solium* and Cysticercosis in Man in Egypt

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Abstract

Cysticercosis is emerging as a serious public health and agricultural problem. In Egypt *Taenia solium*/ human cysticercosis is rare. Therefore, this study aims to survey the occurrence of *T. solium* and cysticercosis in human in Assiut and Sohage Governorates. Stool samples were collected from 425 patients suffering from gastrointestinal disturbances, who attended some hospitals in Assiut and Sohage Governorates. Stool samples were examined by both direct smear method and simple gravity sedimentation technique. Ninety two serum samples were collected randomly from the patients. IgG antibodies against *Taenia solium* and its cysticerci (*Cysticercus cellulose*) were detected in human serum by using ELISA. The occurrence of *T. solium* among 425 examined patients in the present work was 0.7% by using sedimentation stool examination technique. The seroprevalence of *Taenia solium*/cysticercosis in humans in Assiut and Sohage Governorates was 6.5% by using ELISA test. A great variation in the ecological distribution of *Taenia solium*/Cysticercosis in human was detected between Assiut and Sohage Governorates (8.1% & 3.33% respectively). Higher seroprevalence was detected in women (8.5%) than men (3.0%). There was positive correlation between the age of the patient and the infection rate which was 5.3% in the age group below 20 years, 5.5% in the age group 20-40 years and 11.1% in the age group above 40 years. Results obtained in this study reveal that cysticercosis is prevalent among man in the examined areas. Public health education is considered the key factor for control of cysticercosis.

Key words: Cysticercosis, *Taenia solium*, ELISA, man, Parasite, Public Health, Zoonosis.