

high as estimated, though 8 asymptomatic carriers found. To prevent the disease, those institutions should be screened periodically, and asymptomatic carriers should be treated. Implementation of personal hygiene for the inmates is crucial.

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Survey of Hydatid Cyst in Tabriz Slaughter House Killed Animals and Infected Human Cases in Health Center of Tabriz in 2006–2007

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Keywords: Tabriz; Hydatid cyst; Human; Slaughter house killed animals

Hydatid cyst is produced by *Echinococcus granulosus* and it is one of the most important zoonotic infections distributed in the world. Definitive host of this parasite is carnivores and its intermediate host is wild and domestic ruminants. In Iran Hydatid cyst infection rate is reported between 11.2% to 64%. By notice to much important of Hydatidosis and many different reports of infection distribution in Iran a survey was developed about the hydatid cyst infection rate in animals and humans of Tabriz city. Based on results of survey hydatid cyst infection rate in 2006–2007 in Tabriz was: In 2006, of the 294540 sheep, infection liver rate were 22190 (7.5%) and infection lung rate were 30238 (10.2%). Of the 62780 cattle, infection liver rate were 2982 (4.7%) and infection lung rate were 5377 (8.5%). Of the 16960 buffalo, infection liver rate were 620 (3.6%) and infection lung rate were 1074 (6.3%). Of the 57845 goat, infection liver rate were 2726 (4.7%) and infection lung rate were 3269 (5.6%). Of the 97 camel, infection liver rate were 11 (11.3%) and infection lung rate were 20 (20.6%). In 2007, of the 137437 sheep, infection liver rate were 16402 (11.9%) and infection lung rate were 22244 (16.1%). Of the 33227 cattle, infection liver rate were 2600 (7.8%) and infection lung rate were 4343 (13%). Of the 7582 buffalo, infection liver rate were 535 (7%) and infection lung rate were 760 (15.2%). Of the 19969 goat, infection liver rate were 1777 (8.8%) and infection lung rate were 2253 (11.2%). And of the 17 camel, infection liver and lung rate were 0 (0%).

Based on Tabriz health center reports, human infection case rate in 2006 was 15 and in 2006, infection case rate was 20. With our result in this study because the high prevalence of hydatid cyst in Tabriz it is very important to control and preventing the hydatid cyst infection in definitive and intermediate hosts in Tabriz city.

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Prevalence of *Toxocara canis* in Stray Dogs in Mazandaran Iran

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Background and objective: *Toxocara canis* is one of the most common parasites living in the intestine of domestic and stray dogs. A dog eliminates thousands of eggs into the environment that are potential etiological factor for human toxocariasis. The present study was undertaken to determine the prevalence of *T. canis* in stray dogs in Mazandaran, Iran.

Methods: In this cross-sectional study, during the period from April to September 2007, 50 juvenile and adult stray dogs were collected by shooting from urban areas of Sari city, Northern Iran. They were necropsied and the gastrointestinal tract was opened. Recovered parasites were fixed in alcohol and stained in carmine. Faecal specimens also were examined by the formalin ether concentration method.

Results: A total of 27 adult and 23 juvenile dogs were examined with 11 adults (40.7%) and 19 juveniles (82.6%) being infected with *T. canis* with an overall prevalence of 60%. There were significant differences in the prevalence of infection between adult and juvenile dogs ($P = 0.003$). There were no significant differences in the prevalence of infection between male and female dogs ($P > 0.05$).

Conclusion: Considering the high prevalence of this zoonotic parasite and its hygienic significance in causing human toxocariasis, particularly in children, plus the lack of control of stray cat populations, there is a need to improve personal and food hygiene as well controlling stray dogs in these urban areas.

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CD 28 Gene Polymorphism and Plasma Concentration of Soluble CD 28 in Iranian Patients with Visceral Leishmaniasis

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Background: It has been demonstrated that CD 28 plays an essential role in the effectiveness of T-cell immune responses. In visceral leishmaniasis (VL), the resolution of infection and the development of protective immunity are associated with expansion of leishmania-specific T-cell responses. In this study we aimed to investigate the CD 28 gene polymorphism and plasma levels of soluble (s) CD 28 molecule in Iranian patients with VL.

Methods: In a cross-sectional study, plasma concentrations of CD 28 in 88 patients with VL, 132 individual