

Program and Abstract Book

**Malaysian Society of Parasitology
and Tropical Medicine**



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SEMINAR**

**“Impact of Animal Hosts on
Disease Transmission and Public Health”**

Officiated by:

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in Malaysia using an indirect fluorescence antibody test (IFAT, cut-off titer 1:50). Seventeen percent (17.0%) of the cattle were found positive for *Babesia bovis*, 16% positive for *Babesia bigemina* and 9% positive for both. Results indicate that infection is higher in *Babesia bovis* compared to *Babesia bigemina*.

***In vitro* drug studies on *Trichomonas vaginalis* in aerobic and anaerobic conditions**

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Trichomonas vaginalis is a flagellated protozoan parasite that afflicts an estimated 200 million people worldwide annually. Resistance to metronidazole although frequently reported but the mechanism of the drug's resistance in *Trichomonas vaginalis* is still not well understood. In the present study two isolates of *Trichomonas vaginalis* obtained from symptomatic patients were cultured in Hollander medium for a period of 15 days. We assessed the effect of metronidazole in anaerobic and aerobic conditions. The *in vitro* drug trials carried out under aerobic and anaerobic conditions with drug concentrations of 20 µg/ml, 40 µg/ml, 60 µg/ml, 80 µg/ml and 100 µg/ml added into culture tubes which contained 1×10^4 trophozoites per ml respectively. Under anaerobic conditions, the parasites of both isolates B7268 and F1623 were resistant to cultures incorporated with 20, 40, 60, 80 and 100 µg/ml of metronidazole from day 1 up to day 15 respectively. In aerobic conditions, the parasite of both isolates were viable only in cultures incorporated with 20 and 40 µg/ml of metronidazole respectively. The study also showed that in both isolates the existence of rounded, compact, non-motile structures without a true cyst wall, and internalized flagella which is devoid of external flagella i.e 'pseudocyst' exist in both aerobic and anaerobic cultures. However 'pseudocysts' in metronidazole stressed cultures showed bigger size of 'pseudocysts' with more than one nucleus as compared to the 'pseudocysts' in control cultures. The sizes of these 'pseudocysts' in cultures incorporated with metronidazole ranged from 25 µm to 37.5 µm while 'pseudocyst' in control cultures appear ranged from only 12.5 µm to 25 µm. The study with acridine orange and DAPI staining conclusively shows that there are changes at the level of the nucleus when treated with metronidazole. Metronidazole treated cultures also trigger pseudocysts to have larger DNA content with more than one nucleus.

A Study on Cercarial Dermatitis in Bandung's Kayaking Athletes

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Cercarial dermatitis or swimmer's itch is an itchy inflammatory response to the penetration of the skin by non-human schistosome parasites. Kayaking athletes in the Bandung City Indonesia used to practice their sports abilities in Lake Ciburuy located in the West Bandung Area. This survey was made to estimate cercarial dermatitis in those athletes. Six kayaking athletes were observed for clinical signs of cercarial dermatitis. Six kayaking athletes were collected from agriculture canals that contributed dermatitis. Two hundred *Lymnaea rubiginosa* snails were collected from agriculture canals on March 2008. From this the biggest part of Lake Ciburuy water and examined for animal schistosome on their feet, hands or survey two of six kayaking athletes (33.33%) had pruritic maculopapular rash on their feet, hands or other parts of body. From the total of examined snails, 36% were infected with bird schistosome cercariae. Cercarial dermatitis could be a health problem for kayaking athletes practicing in Lake Ciburuy. This is the first report of cercarial dermatitis in kayaking athletes in Indonesia. Pathogenicity of bird schistosome cercaria need further research.

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