

# *Ascaris-As pathogenic helminth (part-4)*



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# Ascaris - Pathogenicity



## **Diagnosis of Filariasis :**

- Stool microscopy :eggs may be seen on direct examination of faeces.
- Eosinophilia : eosinophilia can be found, particularly during larval migration through the lungs
- Imaging : In heavily infested individuals, particularly children, large collections of worms may be detectable on plain film of the abdomen.

# Ascaris - Pathogenicity



## **Diagnosis ( contd..)**

- Ultrasound : ultrasound exams can help to diagnose hepatobiliary or pancreatic ascariasis. Single worms, bundles of worms, or pseudotumor-like appearance, individual body segments of worms may be seen.
- Endoscopic Retrograde Cholangiopancreatography (ERCP) : A duodenoscope with a snare to extract the worm out of the patient<sup>1</sup>

# Ascaris - Pathogenicity



## **Treatment:**

Infection can be treated with a dose of hexylresrcinol crystals in a gelatin capsule .

Some other anti-helminth drugs are

- Mebendazole
- Albendazole
- Pyrantel pamoate
- Ivermectin
- Piperazine citrate
- Levamisole

# Ascaris - Pathogenicity



## **Prevention:**

- Prevention of infection poses a substantial problem since this parasite is abundant in soil – therefore good sanitation is needed to prevent faecal contamination of soil
- Limit using human faeces as fertilizer
- Treatment can be done on contaminated soil although it is not highly advisable

# Ascaris-pathogenicity



## **Prevention ( Contd...)**

- Mass treatments of children with single doses of mebendazole or albendazole – helps reduce transmission in community but can cause reinfection
- Vegetables grown in polluted soil should be thoroughly washed and bioled before consumption.
- Finger nails should be regularly cut to avoid accumulation of egg below them and should be properly soap- washed before eating.
- If reinfection is completely checked, the worms can be got rid of in 9-12 months even if treatment is not taken.

# *Thank You*

