Abstract

Under the assistance and cooperation of the Department of Family Medicine, Taipei Medical University Hospital, stool specimens were collected from 1,159 foreign workers between March and July 2001. By the simple sedimentation method, 15 workers were found to be infected with parasites. The overall infection rate was 4.4%. The rate of females (5.1%) was higher than that of males (4.2%). Ten species (7 helminths and 3 protozoa) were found and 8 (7 helminths and 1 protozoa)were pathogenic. Seven cases with Opisthorchis viverrini were found. The infection rate of Strongyloides stercoralis (1.4%) was the highest > O. viverrini (0.6%) Giardia lamblia (0.6%) > Ascaris lumbricoides (0.4%) > Hookworm (0.3%) Trichuris trichiura (0.3%) Endoameba coli (0.3%) ?? Edolimax nana > Fasciolopsis buski (0.1%) Enterobius vermicularis (0.1%).

In April and November, we went to Cheng-Ching Lake, Kaohsiung County, Chung-Cheng Lake, Meinung Town, South Taiwan, Sun Moon Lake, Nantou County, Central Taiwan, and Ming-Teh Reservoir, Miaoli County, North Taiwan to collect Bithynia snails belong to the same genus of the first intermediate host of O. viverrini. Only 35 empty shells of Bithynia snails were collected. However, six other species of freshwater snails were collected: Sinotaia quadrata, Tarebia granifera, Thiara scabra, Melanoid tuberculata, Pomacea canaliculata, and P. scalaris.

In order to conduct the experimental infection, we also collect stool specimens from a couple of cases infected with O. viverrini. After filtering by the metal filter method and standstill sedimentation, no eggs were recovered. These findings may be due to the fact that the number of worms infecting these cause was very few and the intensity of eggs was very low. We plan to collect O. viverrini eggs from the seven infected persons. Under the assistance of the Taipei Medical University Hospital, the foreign worker mediating companies were acknowledged by letters to inform the seven cases for free chemotherapy to collect adult worms from the stool specimens and eggs from the uterus of the worms. However, this experiment was interrupted because of the uncooperation of the foreign worker mediating companies.

Key Word：Hemorrhagic fever、Surveillance、plan、Cercariae、Metacercariae