Blastocystis Hominis Diarrhea – A Case report

P V Havaldar, Iragouda Patil, B M Hemshettar
Chaitanya Childrens Hospital, Belgaum

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Abstract

Despite the high prevalence throughout the world and many reports across all continents, Blastocystis Hominis related gastrointestinal illness has not been much reported from India. We report a child with chronic diarrhea related to B.hominis.

An 8 year old male child attended the OPD with history of diarrhea of two months duration. He had 5-6 semisolid to loose stools every day with abdominal pain. He didn’t have fever or vomiting. He used to drink clean water. On examination his weight and nutritional status was normal with no anemia. Other systemic examination was normal. Stool microscopy showed few pus cells with cysts of Blastocystis hominis in plenty. Modified AFB stain did not show any acid fast parasites and culture did not grow any organisms. He was treated with 3 days course of Nitazoxanide 200 mg daily with complete recovery of his symptoms. A meticulous search for B.hominis in stool samples of children with gastrointestinal symptoms where in no definite cause is established will go a long way in knowing the prevalence and clinical pattern of illness in India too.