

# DIGESTIVE ANGUILLULOSIS DIAGNOSED AT THE CHU DE BOUAKE. ABOUT FIVE CASES AND REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE

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## Introduction

Anguillulosis or Strongyloidiasis is a ubiquitous digestive parasitosis characterised by the presence of the parthenogenetic female *Strongyloides stercoralis* within the duodenal-jejunal mucosa. Involvement of other digestive tracts, particularly the gastric tract, as well as extra-digestive localisations are observed mainly in cases of malignant anguillulosis, which is a potentially fatal condition. **Objective:** To know the clinico-pathological aspects of digestive anguillulosis diagnosed at the University Hospital of Bouaké in order to improve their management.

## Materials and methods

This was a retrospective descriptive study carried out in the Department of Anatomy and Pathological Cytology at the University Hospital of Bouaké over a period of 2 years. The biopsies were subjected to conventional histopathology techniques. Coproparasitological techniques were performed in all patients with direct microscopic examination and a simplified Ritchie technique.

## Results

The average age was 40.6 years (extremes 20 and 63 years). The sex ratio was 0.66. There were 4 farmers and one student. Three of them were from rural areas. Notion of taking antacids and PPI (n=4) and immunodepression to HIV/AIDS (n=2). Four patients had moderate hypereosinophilia. Parasitological examination of the stools revealed the presence of anguillid larvae in 80% of the patients (n=4).

**Table I :** distribution of patients according to endoscopic aspects

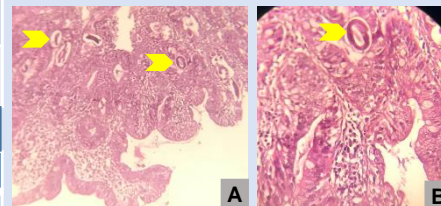
Cases	Endoscopic aspects
Case N° 1	Isolated erythematous gastropathy
Case N° 2 et 3	Erythematous gastropathy + Duodenitis
Case N° 4	Congestive gastropathy + Duodenal ulcerations
Case N° 5	Erythematous gastropathy + Duodenitis + Pre-pyloric ulceration

**Table II :** distribution of patients according to lesion topography

Cases	Lesion topography
Cas N° 1 et 3	Antrum + Duodenum
Cas N° 2 et 5	Duodenum
Cas N° 4	Antrum

**Table III :** distribution of cases according to the type of inflammation

Cases	Type of inflammation
Case	Lymphocytes and plasma cells
Case N° 2, 3, 4 et 5	Lymphocytes, plasma cells and eosinophils



**Figure 1** (A: HE×25; B: HE×100) : presence of *Strongyloides stercoralis* larvae (▶) in the lumen of a duodenal gland

The treatment was medical and the evolution was favourable in all patients after 6 months. At the first and sixth month follow-up endoscopy, the mucosa was normal and the biopsies did not contain any anguillus larvae.

## Discussion

The majority of patients with digestive anguillulosis were from rural areas. This finding is consistent with the literature [1]. Histopathologically, the presence of eosinophilic cells in the mucosa is a stigma of hyperinfestation with the potential for severity [2]. Strongyloidiasis occurs throughout the gastrointestinal tract with a preference for the duodenal mucosa. Localisations in other parts of the gastrointestinal tract have been described in cases of malignant anguillulosis occurring in the context of immunosuppression [3,4].

## Conclusion

Anguillulosis is a frequent condition that is sometimes difficult to diagnose. Histopathology allows the diagnosis to be made in certain forms.

## References

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