

**ENTERITIS ASSOCIATED WITH CONCURRENT INFECTION OF ISOSPORA FELIS  
AND ANCYLOSTOMA SPP. IN A NON DESCRIPT MALE CAT****Vikram Chandu V.<sup>1</sup>, Devadevi N.<sup>2\*</sup>, Vijayalakshmi P.<sup>3</sup>, Rajkumar K.<sup>4</sup>, Abiramy @ Prabavathy A.<sup>5</sup> and Vivek S.<sup>6</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Undergraduate Student, <sup>2</sup>Assistant Professor, Dept. of Veterinary Medicine, <sup>3</sup>Professor and Head, Dept. of Veterinary Medicine, <sup>4</sup>Professor and Head, Dept. of Veterinary Clinical, Complex, <sup>5</sup>Professor, Dept. of Veterinary Medicine, <sup>6</sup>Assistant Professor, Dept. of Veterinary Clinical Complex  
Department of Veterinary Medicine, Veterinary Clinical Complex, Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Veterinary Education and Research, Puducherry-605009.

**\*Corresponding Author: Dr. Devadevi N.**

Assistant Professor, Dept. of Veterinary Medicine, Department of Veterinary Medicine, Veterinary Clinical Complex, Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Veterinary Education and Research, Puducherry-605009.

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**ABSTRACT**

A four month old non-descript male kitten was presented to Small Animal Medicine Unit, Veterinary Clinical Complex, Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Veterinary Education and Research, Puducherry with the history of mucoid diarrhea for the last four days. On clinical examination, the animal appeared very weak and dull, inappetence, mucus mixed diarrhea, blanched mucous membrane, subnormal temperature and delayed capillary refilling time. Faecal examination by direct microscopic examination revealed multiple ova of *Ancylostoma* spp. and sporulated, unsporulated oocysts of *Isospora felis*. The cat was treated with pyrantel pamoate and supportives which gave a successful recovery.

**KEYWORDS:** Enteritis, *Ancylostoma*, *Isospora*, Feline.**INTRODUCTION**

*Ancylostoma* and *Coccidia* are the parasites affecting the small intestine of cats and cause parasitic enteritis along with severe dehydration & loss of intestinal function. The chance of *Ancylostoma* infection is quite rare in cats as they usually are pets with cleaner habits, thus opportunities for acquiring heavy infection are rarely observed.<sup>[3]</sup> *Isospora felis*, is a common coccidian protozoa which effects the small intestine of cats. Younger kittens are more commonly affected and animals less than four years are at high risk. It occurs as an acute form of the disease when parasites have the merogony stage. In chronic form of infections, animals may have catarrhal inflammation of intestine which lead to malabsorption with immune suppressive disorders.<sup>[5]</sup> The present study describes about the clinical signs, diagnosis and treatment of concurrent *Ancylostoma* and *Isospora felis* infection in a kitten.

**MATERIALS AND METHODS**

A four month old non-descript male kitten was presented to Small Animal Medicine unit, Veterinary Clinical Complex, Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Veterinary Education and Research, Puducherry with the history of mucoid diarrhea for the last four days. The animal was neither dewormed nor vaccinated. The kitten was weak, dull with inappetence, mucoid diarrhea, blanched mucous

membrane, subnormal temperature (100.2°F), delayed capillary refilling time (>2 seconds), heart rate 220 bpm, respiration rate 40 breaths / minute and palpable popliteal lymph nodes. Faecal sample was collected and subjected to microscopic examination revealed multiple *Ancylostoma* ova (Fig. 2&3) with sporulated, unsporulated oocysts of *Isospora felis* (Fig. 2&4).

**Fig. 1: Kitten with Dull and Depression.**



**Fig. 2:** Faecal examination showed ova of *Ancylostoma* and sporulated oocyst of *Isospora felis*.



**Fig. 3:** Faecal examination showed ova of *Ancylostoma*.



**Fig. 4:** Faecal examination showed sporulated oocyst of *Isospora felis*.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In the present study, *Ancylostoma spp.* and *Isospora felis* were the parasites affecting the small intestine of cats which exhibited varied clinical signs. Ova of *Ancylostoma* was identified as per Quinn, 1997.<sup>[2]</sup> Sporulated and unsporulated oocysts of *Isospora felis* was identified as per Michalca, 2013.<sup>[5]</sup> Based on the history, clinical signs, faecal examination, the case was diagnosed as enteritis due to concurrent infection of *Ancylostoma spp.* and *Isospora felis*. The kitten was dewormed with broad spectrum dewormer, pyrantel pamoate (Susp. Powesil™) at the dose rate of 5mg/ kg

body weight PO once.<sup>[4]</sup> and supported with oral electrolyte (Ordelyte™) and immune booster for 5 days (Syp. Amimeow™ 3ml daily PO). The animal showed clinical improvement after therapy. The animal turned apparently normal with normal vital parameters and faecal swab showed no evidence of ova and oocyst of endoparasites. Immune booster aids in the improving the immune system, which would have helped in the elimination of the oppurstinic pathogen.<sup>[5]</sup> The kitten subsequently recovered from enteritis and made an uneventful recovery.

## CONCLUSION

Parasitic infection in kitten is more pathogenic than in adult cats, early diagnosis with simple faecal examination will help in prompt therapy and easy recovery.

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