

Cestodes

Lecture: 4

7-8/12/2021

Dipylidium caninum

Disease: *Dipylidiasis* or Dog tapeworm infection

Infect dogs, cat & humans mostly in children, including infants.

Morphology:

- ❖ Adult is medium size measuring 10-70 cm. It consists of several- hundred proglottids.
- ❖ Scolex is rhomboidal in shape, has 4 suckers and an apical club-shaped proboscis provided with 6 rows of minute hooklets.
- ❖ Mature proglottid contains paired reproductive system (double ♂ & ♀ reproductive organs in each segment) and has a genital pore at each lateral margin, so it called the double-pored tapeworm.
- ❖ The distal most gravid proglottid resembles a cucumber seed in size, shape and color.
- ❖ Eggs: numerous egg capsules filled with 1-20 fully embryonated eggs.



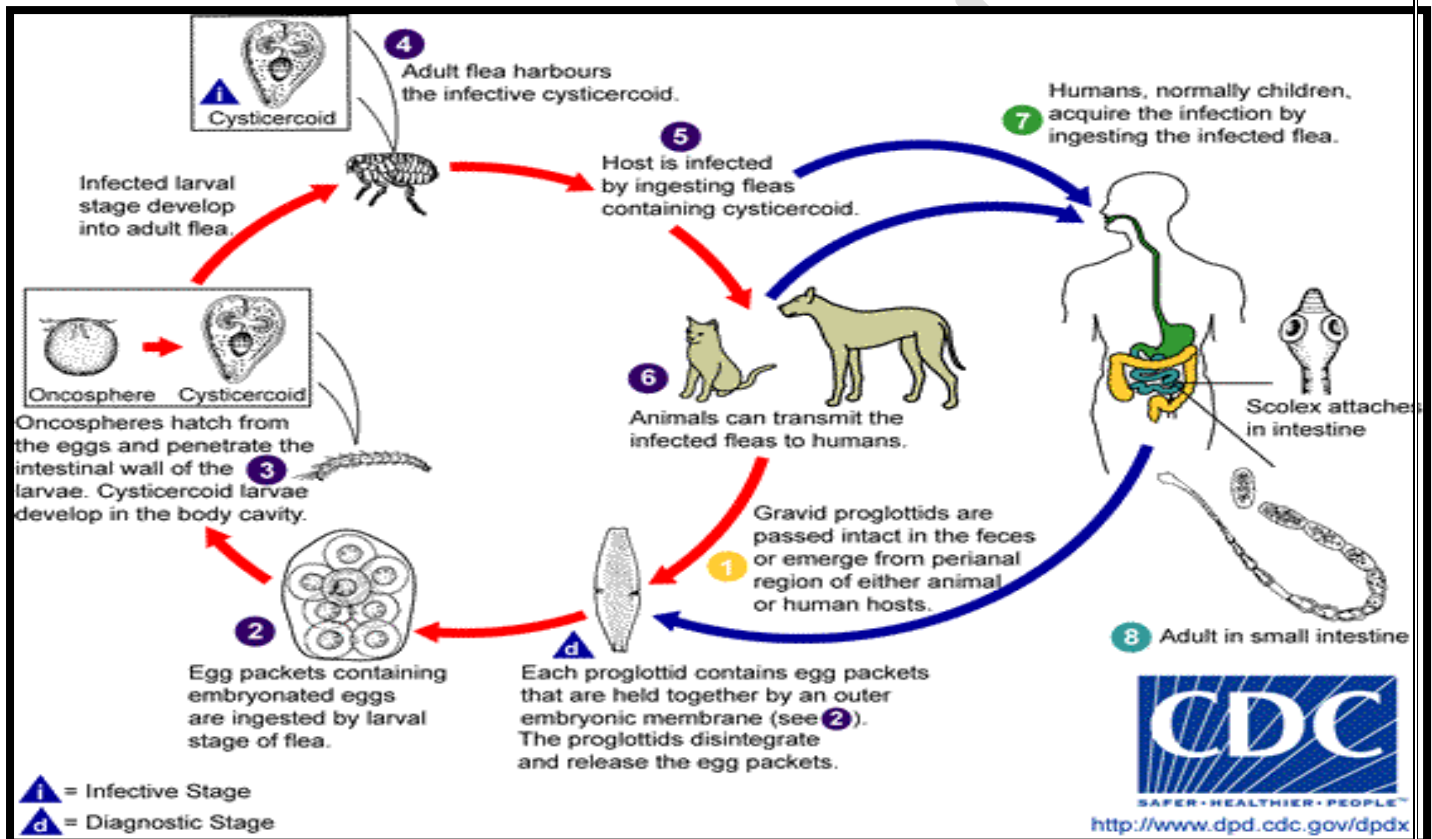
Dipylidium caninum Egg Capsule

Note:

- In dogs and cats the infection consists of several to many worms; in children it is solitary.
- Gravid proglottid with egg capsules separate from the strobila and pass down the intestinal canal then migrate out of the anus or passed in the feces.

Life cycle:

- Gravid segment separate from the strobila, pass down the intestinal canal and migrate out of the anus or one passed in the feces.
- Larvas of the dog flea, dog louse or other arthropod ingest the egg capsule.
- Hatching occurs and the liberated embryos migrate into arthropods hemocoel and transform into cysticeroid larvae (infective stage to man).
- The definitive host becomes infected by ingestion the infected insect.



Pathogenesis & Symptoms:

- ◆ *Dipylidium caninum* causes a cosmopolitan infection of dogs and cats.
- ◆ Fleas are the intermediate hosts in which the infective cysticeroids develop.
- ◆ Children in close and continuous contact with pets are occasionally infected as a result of the accidental ingestion of an infected flea.
- ◆ The infection is usually asymptomatic and is self-limited, but may produce diarrhea and unrest.

Diagnosis:

Stool examination.

Diagnostic stage:

Egg capsule.

Treatment:

The same as *T. saginata*.

Control:

- Flea control of pets would largely eliminate the infection from household pets and children by applying insecticides.
- Periodic administration of taeniafuges to dogs and cats.

Dr. Usama Ali

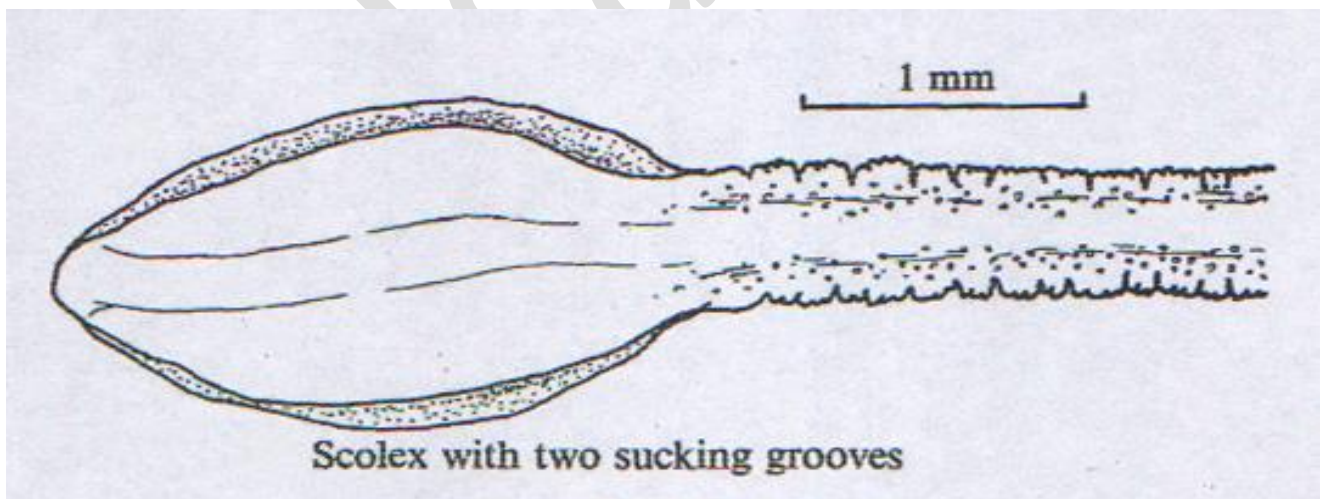
Diphyllobothrium latum

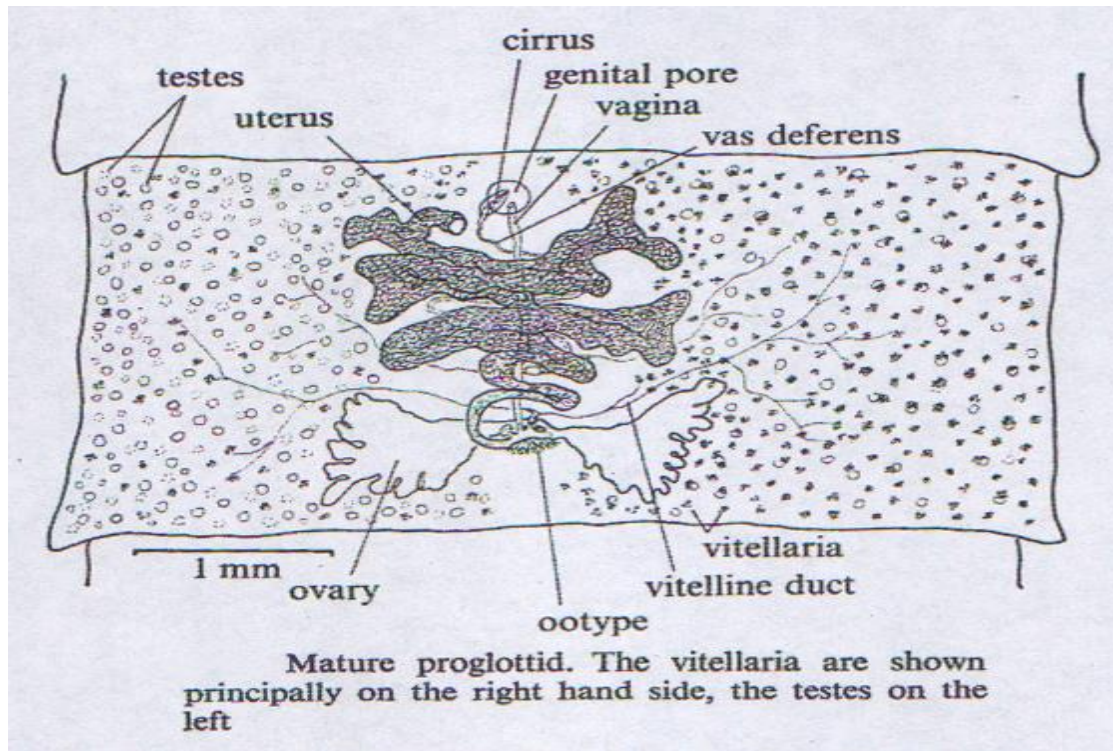
Disease: Diphyllbothriasis or the Fish Tapeworm infection

The adult worm is a member of the order Pseudophyllidea. Prevalence worldwide, where freshwater or brackish water fish are consumed raw.

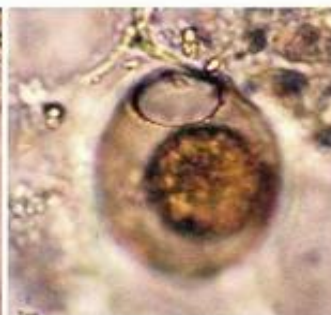
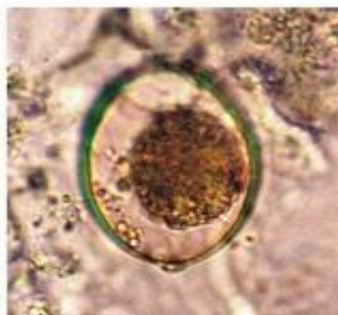
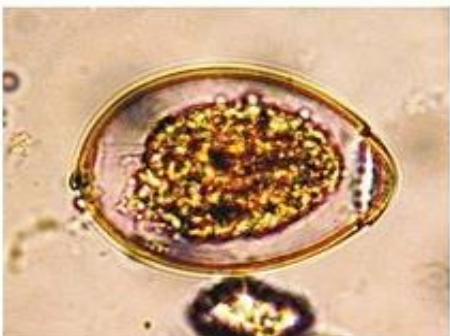
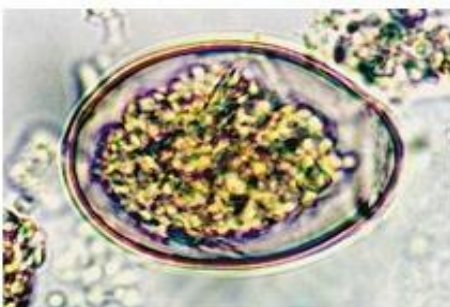
Morphology:

- ▶ *Diphyllobothrium latum* is the largest parasite of humans reaching lengths up to 10 m or more and consisting of a chain of 3,000 to 4,000 proglottids, each up to 2 cm wide
- ▶ Scolex elliptical or spatula-like or almond in shape, long 2 – 3 mm and provided with a pair of linear sucking grooves (bothria).
- ▶ It has a rosette-shaped uterus connected to the outside by a uterine pore through which the eggs are passed. Hence, mature segments produce eggs until they die and are shed, rather than by breaking off as intact egg-filled segments, as in *Taenia*.
- ▶ Up to a million eggs can be produced daily.





- ▶ Eggs are 30 x 50 micrometers in size, ovoid, light golden-yellow and have an operculum at one end with a small thickening of the shell at the opposite end. They contain an embryo with 3 pairs of hooklets.
- ▶ The egg does not float in saturated solutions of common salt. A single egg gives rise to a single larva. It is not infective to man.
- ▶ Fully developed eggs are discharged through the uterine pore, terminal proglottid gradually become exhausted and disintegrate.



■ Larva:

- Passed first in water and then in the respective intermediate hosts 3 stages.

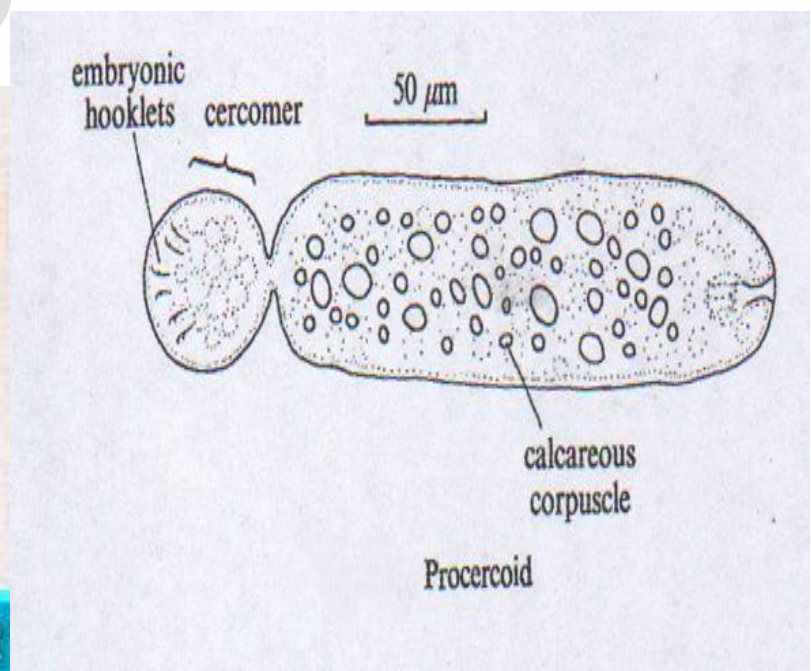
- First stage larva

- **Coracidium: Ciliated oncosphere that develops from egg in water.**



- Second stage larva

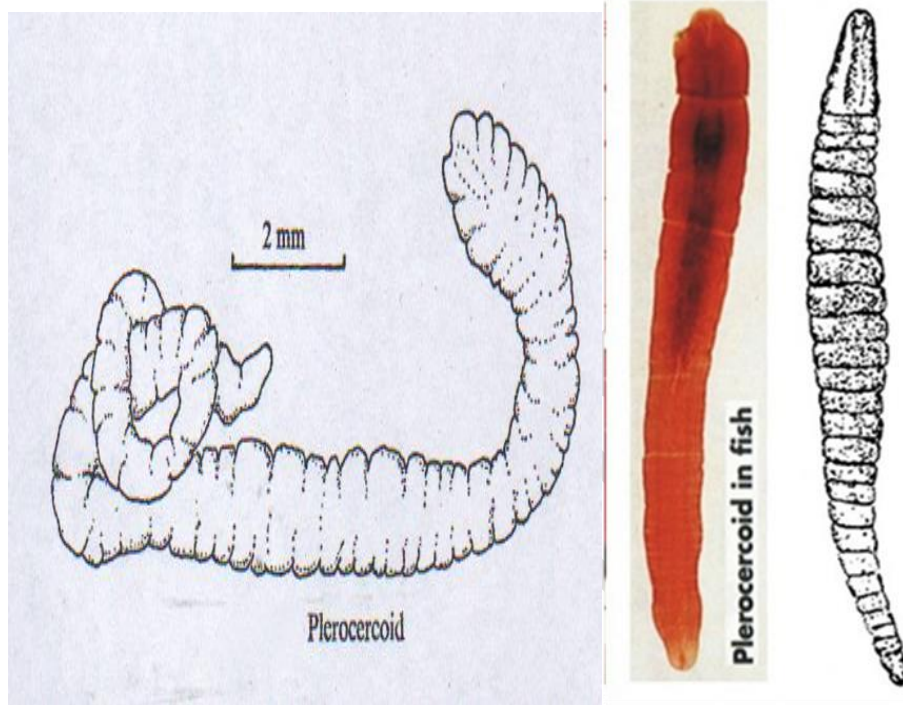
- **Proceroid: Spindle-like solid body with cephalic invagination. Found inside the *Cyclops* (the first intermediate host).**



■ Third stage larva

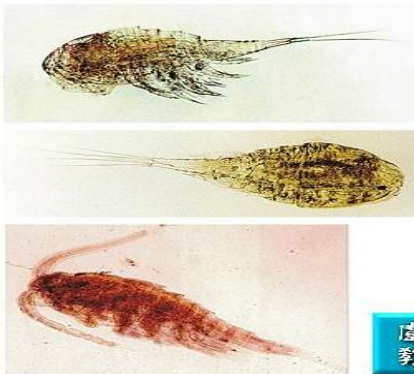
- **Plerocercoid:** Head is invaginated in the neck. Found in the fresh water fish, the second intermediate host.

Proceroid and plerocercoid, larval stages of *D. latum*, both solid organisms lacking a bladder.

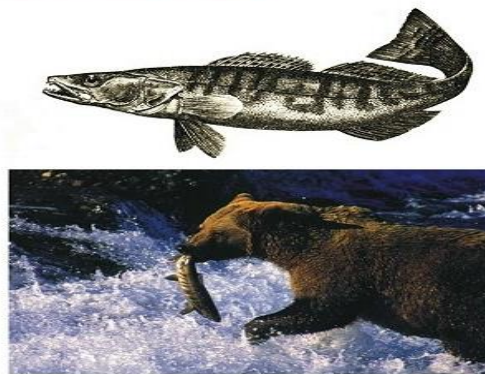


Intermediate Host of *Diphyllibothrium latum* (廣節裂頭條蟲的中間宿主)

- 1st Intermediate Host
Copepods :
Diaptomus spp. , Cyclops spp. , etc.

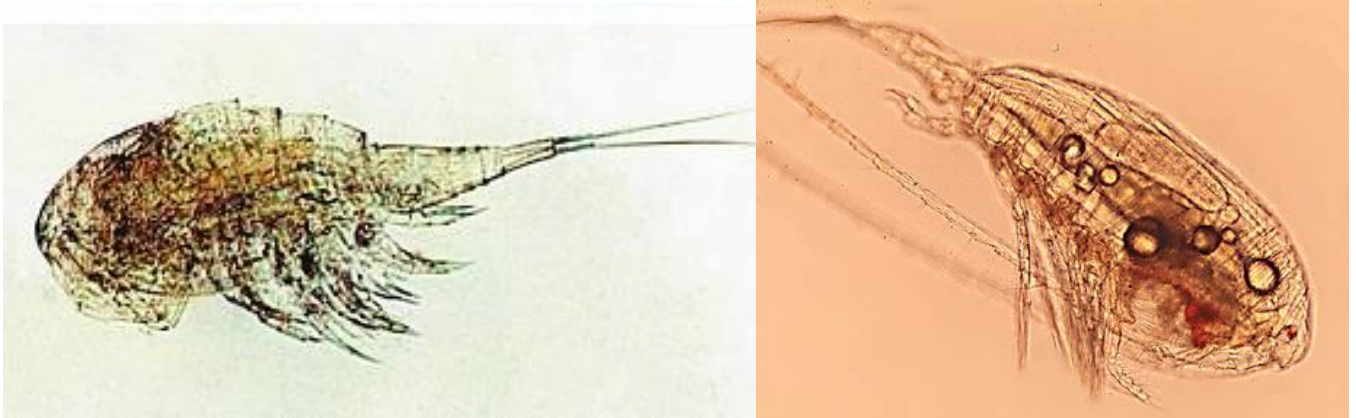


- 2nd Intermediate Host :
Fresh-brakish Water Fishes :
Salmonoid fishes(鮭)



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First intermediate host usually an aquatic arthropod

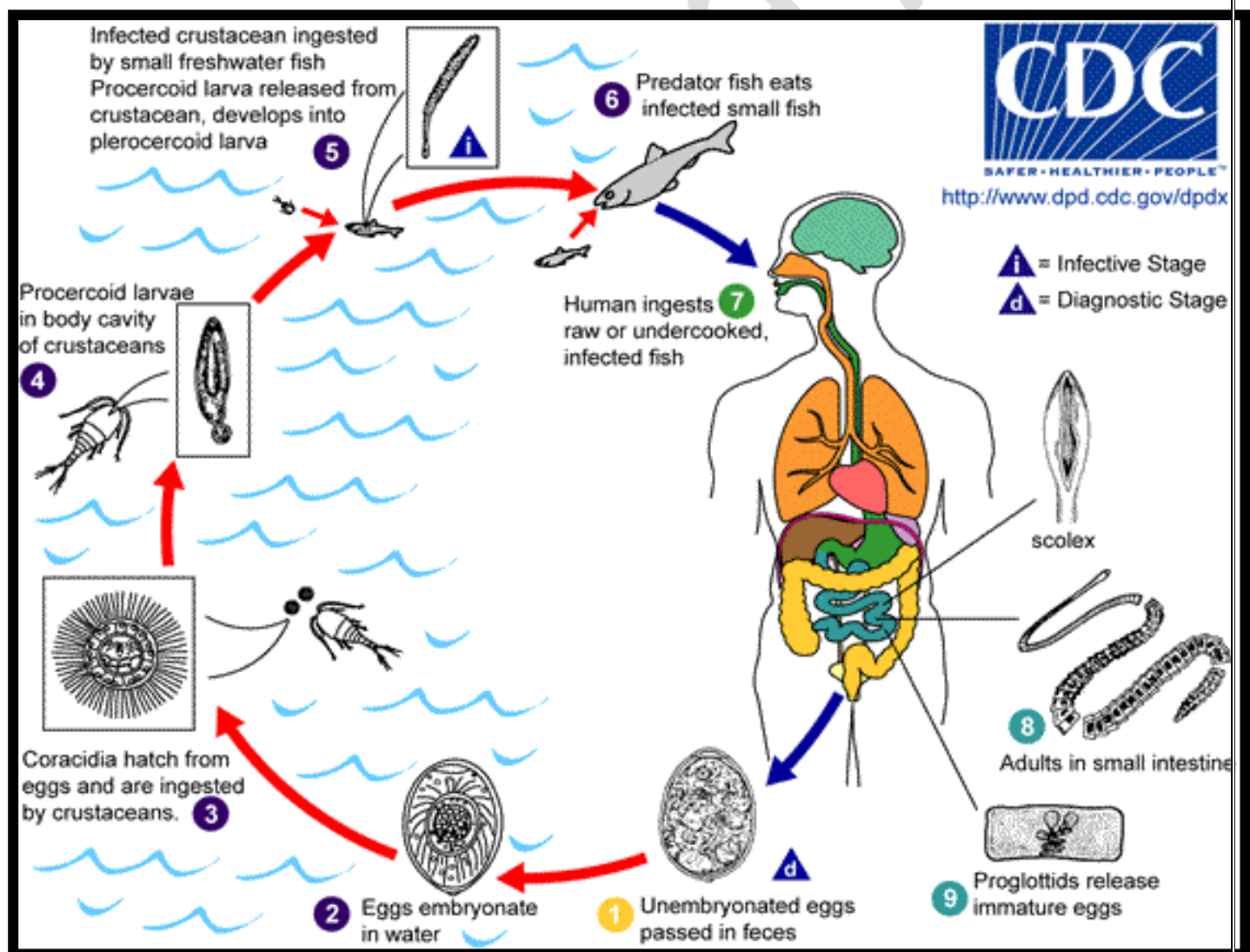


2nd IH is a vertebrate of some kind (usually cold blooded)



Life cycle:

- Man and other animals are infected by eating uncooked fish that contains plerocercoid larvae (15 x 2 mm)(sparganum) which attach to the small intestinal wall and mature into adult worms in 3 to 5 weeks.
- Eggs discharged from gravid proglottids in the small intestine are passed in the feces.
- The egg hatches in fresh water to produce a ciliated oncosphere (coracidium) which needs to be ingested by a water flea (Cyclops) where it develops into a proceroid larva.
- When infected Cyclops are ingested by the freshwater fish (plankton feeding fish), the proceroid larva penetrates the intestinal wall and develops into a plerocercoid larva (sparganum), infectious to man, cat, dog, or bear.



Immature eggs are passed in feces ①. Under appropriate conditions, the eggs mature (approximately 18 to 20 days) ② and yield oncospheres which develop into a coracidia ③. After ingestion by a suitable freshwater crustacean (the copepod first intermediate host) the coracidia develop into proceroid larvae ④. Following ingestion of the copepod by a suitable second intermediate host, typically minnows and other small freshwater fish, the proceroid larvae are released from the crustacean and migrate into the fish flesh where they develop into a plerocercoid larvae (sparganum) ⑤. The plerocercoid larvae are the infective stage for humans. Because humans do not generally eat undercooked minnows and similar small freshwater fish, these do not represent an important source of infection. Nevertheless, these small second intermediate hosts can be eaten by larger predator species, e.g., trout, perch, walleyed pike ⑥. In this case, the sparganum can migrate to the musculature of the larger predator fish and humans can acquire the disease by eating these later intermediate infected host fish raw or undercooked ⑦. After ingestion of the infected fish, the plerocercoid develop into immature adults and then into mature adult tapeworms which will reside in the small intestine. The adults of *D. latum* attach to the intestinal mucosa by means of the two bilateral grooves (bothria) of their scolex ⑧. The adults can reach more than 10 m in length, with more than 3,000 proglottids. Immature eggs are discharged from the proglottids (up to 1,000,000 eggs per day per worm) ⑨ and are passed in the feces ①. Eggs appear in the feces 5 to 6 weeks after infection. In addition to humans, many other mammals can also serve as definitive hosts for *D. latum*.

Note:

- **Eggs must be discharged into cool fresh water where they embryonated and hatch.**
- **The emerging ciliated embryo must be eaten by a copepod (Cyclops) in which the embryo transforms into a proceroid.**
- **The infected copepod must then be eaten by a plankton-feeding fish in the flesh of which the proceroid transforms into a plerocercoid (sparganum).**
- **The infected fish must be eaten raw by the definitive host in whose intestine the larva develops into the adult worm.**

- Although dogs and bears are reservoirs of *D. latum*, man is primarily responsible for maintaining the life cycle of *D. latum*.

Pathogenesis & Symptoms:

- Infection with *Diphyllobothrium latum* is usually asymptomatic, although occasional diarrhea, abdominal pain, fatigue, vomiting, dizziness, loss of appetite, anorexia and nausea.
- Bothriocephalus anemia (anemia and neurological problems associated with vitamin B₁₂ deficiency are seen in heavily infected individuals).
- The infection accompanied by peptic ulcer and appendicitis.
- **Complications** include intestinal obstruction and gall bladder disease caused by migration of proglottids.

Diagnosis:

Diagnosis is made by identification of eggs or segments of the tapeworm in a stool sample with a microscope. Eggs are usually numerous, but more than one stool sample may be needed to find them.

Diagnostic stage:

Egg with operculum

A single worm may produce up to 15000 eggs/ gm. of feces.

Treatment:

- ✓ Praziquantel is the drug of choice.
- ✓ Niclosamide (yomesan).

Control:

- ❖ Freezing for 24 hours, thorough cooking or pickling of fish kills the larvae.
- ❖ Fish reservoirs should be kept free of raw sewage.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA or USFDA) recommends the following for fish preparation or storage to kill parasites.

توصي ادارة الغذاء والدواء الأمريكية بتجهيز وتخزين اللحوم السمكية بشكل آمن للقضاء على الطفيليات .

■ **Cooking**

Cook fish adequately (to an internal temperature of at least 145° F [~63° C]).

■ **Freezing**

At -4°F (-20°C) or below for 7 days (total time), or

At -31°F (-35°C) or below until solid, and storing at -31°F (-35°C) or below for 15 hours, or

At -31°F (-35°C) or below until solid and storing at -4°F (-20°C) or below for 24 hours.

Larval tapeworm infections

Sparganum of *Spirometra* species

Disease: Sparganosis

Is a common parasite of dogs and cats in the orient and in other parts of the world.

- ✪ Several species of *Spirometra* are intestinal parasites of canine and feline host.
- ✪ These are pseudophyllidean tapeworm.
- ✪ *Cyclops* is the first intermediate host.
- ✪ The second intermediate hosts are various species of vertebrates such as fish, frog, snake, birds and mammals.
- ✪ The life cycle of *Spirometra* species follows the same pattern as that of *Diphyllobothrium* species.
- ✪ Human infection can be acquired by swallowing a proceroid in a copepod or plerocercoid in a second intermediate hosts or paratenic host.
- ✪ A large majority of human infection with unbranched spargana occur in the China sea area.

Pathogenesis and symptoms:

- Early infection with little host tissue reaction, but eventually the parasite provokes an infiltration of eosinophils and other inflammatory cells.
- Later the parasite may die, causing an intense inflammatory reaction with eosinophils and Charcot-Leyden crystals.

Ocular sparganosis: is characterized by intense pain, irritation and palpebral edema with excessive lacrymator. If the worm lodges under the conjunctiva it is likely to provoke nodule formation.

Diagnosis:

- ✓ Clinical symptoms in endemic areas.
- ✓ Sparganum recovered intact in the living condition and feed to a young cat or dog then it will be grow to the adult stage.

Treatment:

- ❑ Surgical removing.

Note:

Human infection with sparganum of *Spirometra* species result from:

- ▶ Drinking pond, lake or stream water containing procercoid-infected *Cyclops*.
- ▶ Eating a raw infected frog, snake or possibly small mammals.
- ▶ Applying plerocercoid-infected flesh of frogs, snakes or others as a poultice on an inflamed eye or finger.
- ▶ A spargana are known to develop in pigs, so human infection may be acquired by eating raw pork.

Control:

- Sparganosis can be avoided by drinking only safe water.
- Eating only well-cooked flesh or animals.
- Use no flesh poultices.

End of Cestodes Lecture: 4