# **PROTOZOA: Amoebae**

Amebiasis Entamoeba histolytica

### Classification

Phylum: Sarcomastigophora
 Subphylum: Sarcodina
 Superclass: Rhizopoda
 Order: Amoebida

## Classification

Parasitic amoebae

- Entamoeba
- Dientamoeba
- Endolimax
- Iodoamoeba

Free living amoebae

- Naegleria
- Acanthamoeba

Balamuthia

#### Amoebae

- A. Pathogenic amoebae: Intestinal : E.histolytica
- в. Nonpathogenic commensals :
  - 1. Mouth amoeba E.gingivalis

2. Intestinal : E.coli, E.nana, I.butshclii & D.fragilis

## Entamoeba histolytica Schaudinn, 1902

 Causing diarrhoea, dysentery, hepatitis and liver abscess in man
 First discovered by Lambi (1859)

### **Geographical distribution**

More common in tropics and subtropics than in the temperate zone

### Habitat

 Live in the mucus and submucus layers of large intestine of man

## Morphology – Three form

Trophozoites
Precystic
Cystic

## E.histolytica - Morphology



## E.histolytica: Trophozoite

■ Size: 18-40µ

- Exhibit slow gliding movement
- Shape: Not fixed
- Cytoplasm ectoplasm, & endoplasm
- Nucleus: Central karyosome surrounded by delicate nu memb & space is traversed by fine thread of linin network having spoke like radial arrangement

 Entamoeba histolytica – Trophozoite stage





#### Entamoeba histolytica trophozoites



### Precystic stage

10 – 20 μm

Same like trophozoite

Round or oval with blunt pseudopoia
 No RBCs / Food particles



## Cystic stage

12 – 15 μm Round Cyst wall – highly refractile Nucleus: 1 / 2 / 4 Cytoplasm – shows - Chromatoid body - Glycogen mass



# Cyst of E.histolytica





#### Entamoeba histolytica cysts

Cyst nuclei possess even peripheral chromatin and a central karyosome

- Cytoplasm contains rod-shaped chromatoid bars - cigar-shaped - and vacuoles

- Chromatoidal bars and glycocogen vacuoles are most common in young cysts (uninucleate & binucleate).

-In mature cysts, glycogen mass is absent



A. Uninucleate





B. Binucleate



Entamoeba histolytica life cycle

Common source of infection is from the use of Manure containing infected faeces- used to fertilize vegetables





#### Entamoeba histolytica life cycle

Infection occurs when infective cysts are ingested in food or water that has been contaminated with human feces.

Thus, this parasite is transmitted from human to human via fecal contamination





 Infections of *E. histolytica* vary in intensity from asymptomatic to severe or fatal invasions

 Asymptomatic infections are responsible for the spread of the parasite with numerous cysts being passed in normal stools

- 90 % carriers
- 10 % symptomatic infection
- 1 % complication

## Symptoms & Pathology

Invasive forms of the disease :

#### Intestinal :

- Dysentery
- Intestinal ulceration

#### Extra-intestinal : Abscess

- Liver
- Lung
- Brain

#### Entamoeba histolytica pathogenesis



#### Entamoeba histolytica pathology

#### 1. COLONIZATION OF THE LARGE INTESTINE

#### primary ulcer:



-Mucosa

submucosa





#### **COMPLICATIONS IN LARGE INTESTINE**



#### Entamoeba histolytica pathology

### 3. EXTRA-INTESTINAL LESIONS occur in 3 ECTOPIC SITES

A. HEPATIC AMEBIASIS

#### Colonization of Formation of Secondary large intestine colonization Abscesses SPECIALLY IN LIVER Brain May rupture into bmochus Pleuro abacess Luna ectopic sites Sub-diaphragmatic abscess ogression to abscess(es) PERITONEAL CAVITY AND OTHER ABDOMINAL ORGANS SKIN OF ABDOMINAL WALL RUPTURE OR AFTER SURGERY

PERIANAL SKIN

3.EXTRA-INTESTINAL LESIONS

#### **B. PULMONARY AMEBIASIS**

#### C. CEREBRAL AMEBIASIS

Diagram of pathology

Shows movement of trophozoites from large intestine to lungs via hepatic portal vein



Liver abscesses

#### Amoebic liver abscess

Incidence: Only 5-10% persons with intestinal amoebiasis The parasite multiply rapidly in the liver & cause obstruction to circulation resulting in ischaemic necrosis of the surrounding liver cells forming small abscesses.

#### Amoebic liver abscess

- Abscess area: Reddish brown with semifluid consistency.
- Cytolysed liver tissue: Completely destroyed
- Contains pus like mix.- sloughed liver tissue & blood
- Anchovy sauce pus
   Bacteriologically: sterile



### Localisation of abscess



### Gross pathology of liver containing amebic abscess



#### Gross pathology of amebic abscess of liver. Tube of "chocolate" pus from abscess.



## Anchovy sauce pus



Laboratory Diagnosis -Dysentery Stool Examination: Gross Microscopic

Serological test

#### **Stool Examination - Gross**

With Mucus , blood & / Pus
Foul smelling
pH: Acidic
Dark Red

## **Microscopic Examination**

Pus cells
RBCs
Bacteria
Parasites
C. L. Crystals

## **Microscopic Examination**

Wet mount – saline
Wet mount – Iodine
Iron Haematoxyline stain
Trophozoites





## Microscopic Examination: Cysts





## **Charcot Leyden Crystal**

Diamond shaped crystals are often seen in amoebic dysentery faeces and may also be present in other parasitic infections. They are absent in bacillary dysentery.



Dysentery	Amoebic	Bacillary
Onset	Gradual	Acute
Clinically	No symptoms	Fever, vomiting
Odour	Offensive	Odourless
Nature	Blood & Mucus	Often watery & Bloody
Reaction	Acidic/Dark red	Alkaline/Bright red
Numbers	6 to 8 motions/day	> 10 motions/day
Amount	Copious	Small

Dysentery	Amoebic	Bacillary
RBC	Clumps	Discrete
Pus cells	Scanty	Numerous
Macrophage	Nil/very few	Large numbers
Trophozoite	E.histolytica	Nil
Charcot- Leyden crystals	Present	NII
Eosinphils	Present	Absent
Pyknotic body	Common	Nil

 Liver abscess – Lab. Diagnosis
 Pus – gross – Chocolate color
 Microscopy – Trophozoites rare - C. L. crystals

> - Necrotic debris,pus cells, RBCs

 Serological test: - Detection of antibody – Precipitation / ELISA / Immunochromatography

# An Amoebic Liver Abscess Being Aspirated.

Note the reddish brown color of the pus ('anchovysauce'). This color is due to the breakdown of liver cells.



# X-ray of a Large Amoebic Liver Abscess.

A fluid level has formed after aspiration due to entry of air



# Entamoeba coli

#### Entamoeba coli life cycle stages

- 1. TROPHOZOITE 30 to 40  $\mu$ m in diameter
  - granular endoplasm is coarser than E. histolytica
- structure of nucleus: karyosome eccentric, nuclear membrane lined by coarse chromatin granules
  - lives in **large intestine** and feeds on bacteria and any other cells available to it; does not invade tissue





#### Entamoeba coli life cycle stages

- 2. CYST encystment is similar to that of *E. histolytica*
- immature cysts are rare in fecal smears
- mature cyst is large, 15 to 20 μm, has
   8 nuclei
- chromatoidal bodies, if present, have splinter-like ends (disappear in most cysts)
- cyst is released in the feces into the external environment
- importance of human infection?





#### Entamoeba coli life cycle







## Free living amoeba

Naegleria fowleriAcanthamoeba spp.

