#### **Stool examination**

# Collection of sample

- Wide mouth container with spoon before starting antiparasitic drugs
- Frequency : if first sample is negative, 3 consecutive samples on alternate days
- Time to examine :
  - Liquid 30 min
  - Semisolid 1 hour
  - Solid same day



#### Parasites can be present in stool

- Macroscopic :
  - Worms or segments
- Microscopic :
  - Motile: Trophozoites, larvae
  - Non motile: Cysts, Ova (egg)

## **Gross Examination**



- Consistency
- Mucus
- Blood
- Pus
- pH
- Large parasites

# Blood in stool

- E.histolytica
- B.coli
- Schistosoma
- T.trichiura (severe)
- Hookworm (Occult blood)

# Parasites found in gross examination

- Adult worms
  - A.lumbricoides
  - E.vermicularis
  - F.buski
- Segments
  - Taenia
  - D.latum

# Microscopic examination

- Wet examination
  - Saline preparation
  - Iodine preparation
  - After concentration technique
- Stained preparation
  - Trichrome stain
  - Modified Z-N stain

# Wet preparation

- Saline preparation
  - Eggs, larvae & protozoal trophozoites
  - Characteristic motility of trophozoites is seen
  - Used to differentiate bile stained & non-bile stained eggs
- Iodine preparation
  - Kills organism so motility is lost
  - Stains glycogen & nuclei mainly used for cyst
  - Difficult to differentiate bile & non-bile stained eggs

#### Wet Preparation



# **Concentration method**

- Sedimentation technique
  - Formal-ether technique
- Floatation technique
  - Saturated sodium chloride method
  - Zinc sulfate method

# Formal – ether technique

- Mix 1 gm of stool 10 ml of 10 % formal-saline left for 10 min
- Strained through wire gauze or gauze piece in centrifuge tube
- Add 3 ml of ether to filtrate
- Centrifuge at 2000 rpm for 2 min
- Allow to settle, debris is removed with wire
- Decant supernatant fluid with debris
- Make cover slip preparation from deposit
- Count the number of eggs

# Formal ether sedimentation technique



## Flotation technique

- Using a solution having greater density than eggs and cysts so that remain float when suspended and kept in medium for some time
  - Saturated salt solution
  - Zinc sulphate (Zenker's)
  - Sucrose solution (Sheather's)

# Saturated sodium chloride technique

- 1/4<sup>th</sup> of a 25 ml test tube is filled with saturated salt solution
- Add 1 gm of stool
- Mix and add more salt solution
- Tube is kept in vertical position any debris collected on top is removed
- Tube is filled up to top (rim of tube)
- Cover slip is placed over it so that it is in contact with fluid
- Preparation is allowed to stand for 30-40 min
- It is lifted carefully by a straight pull upwards and placed on a slide face downwards
- Examine & count number of eggs



# Protozoa found in stool

- Trophozoites & cysts
  - E.histolytica
  - G.lamblia
  - B.coli
- Oocysts
  - Isospora
  - Cryptosporidia

### Protozoal cyst









#### Protozoa









### Larvae of helminths



# Cestode eggs

- D.latum
- Taenia
- H.nana

### Cestode eggs found in stool











# Trematode eggs

- Schistosoma mansoni
- Schistosoma japonicum
- Fasciola hepatica / Fasciolopsis buskii
- C.sinensis

# Common features of trematode eggs

- Bile stained
- Does not float in saturated salt solution
- Operculated except schistosoma

#### Trematode eggs found in stool



Figura 3. Huevo de *Clonorchis sinensis*, se observa el opérculo en un extremo y la prominencia al otro.



#### Non-operculated eggs







#### All does not float in saturated salt solution



# Nematode eggs

- A.lumbricoides
- T.trichuria
- A.doudenale
- E.vermicularis

#### Nematode eggs









# Nematode eggs

- All float in saturated salt solution except

   Unfertilized egg of A.lumbricoides
- Bile stained
  - T.trichuria
  - A.lumbricoides
- Non bile stained
  - A.doudenale
  - E.vermicularis

#### All float in saturated salt solution except unfertilized egg of A.lumbricoides



# Stoll's egg counting technique

- Add 3 gm of faeces + 42 ml of water (1:15 dilution) in a rubber stopper glass tube
- Close tube & mix thoroughly
- 0.15 ml of suspension is placed on a slide, cover slip is applied and all eggs present on slide are counted microscopically
- The numbers are multiplied by 100 to give number of eggs / gm of faeces
- Multiplication factor :
  - Semi formed 2
  - Unformed watery 4

unformed soft – 3 fluid - 5

# Stoll's egg counting technique

- Mainly used for
  - Ascaris
  - Trichuris
  - Hookworm
- To know worm burden or severity of condition
- As per WHO, it is considered as severe if
  - Ascaris >50 000 eggs/gm
  - Trichuris >10 000 eggs/gm
  - Hookworm > 4000 eggs/gm