[PICTURES IN CLINICAL MEDICINE]

Magnified Endoscopic Observations of a Living Whipworm

Kinichi Hotta, Kenichiro Imai and Sayo Ito

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Picture 1.

An asymptomatic 64-year-old man with a colonic polyp was referred to our department. He underwent colonoscopy and a whitish worm was detected in the transverse colon (Picture 1a). Narrow band imaging revealed a whole parasite body (Picture 1b). It could be diagnosed as a whipworm (*Trichuris trichiura*) due to its specific form (1). Its thin cranial end was invading the mucosa and the opposite caudal end was freely moving. This parasite was confirmed to be a female because of the straight form of its caudal end. The female genitalia (Picture 1c: blue arrows) contained many

uterine eggs (Picture 1d: red arrows), while the intestine (Picture 1c: green arrows) and esophagus (Picture 1d: yellow arrows) were identified during *in vivo* magnifying observation. We finally picked up the moving caudal side by biopsy forceps and removed its whole body. A retrieved specimen revealed a worm body with a colonic mucosa (Picture 2: gray arrows). Two sessions of follow-up colonoscopy revealed no further whipworms over a 14-month period without any medication.

Division of Endoscopy, Shizuoka Cancer Center, Japan

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Correspondence to Dr. Kinichi Hotta, k.hotta@scchr.jp

Picture 2.

In Picture 1, a figure of *Trichuris trichiura* was taken from section 2-7 in ESSENTIALS OF MEDICAL PARASITOLOGY 3rd edit. described by Prof. Isao Tada published by Ishiyaku

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The authors state that they have no Conflict of Interest (COI).

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