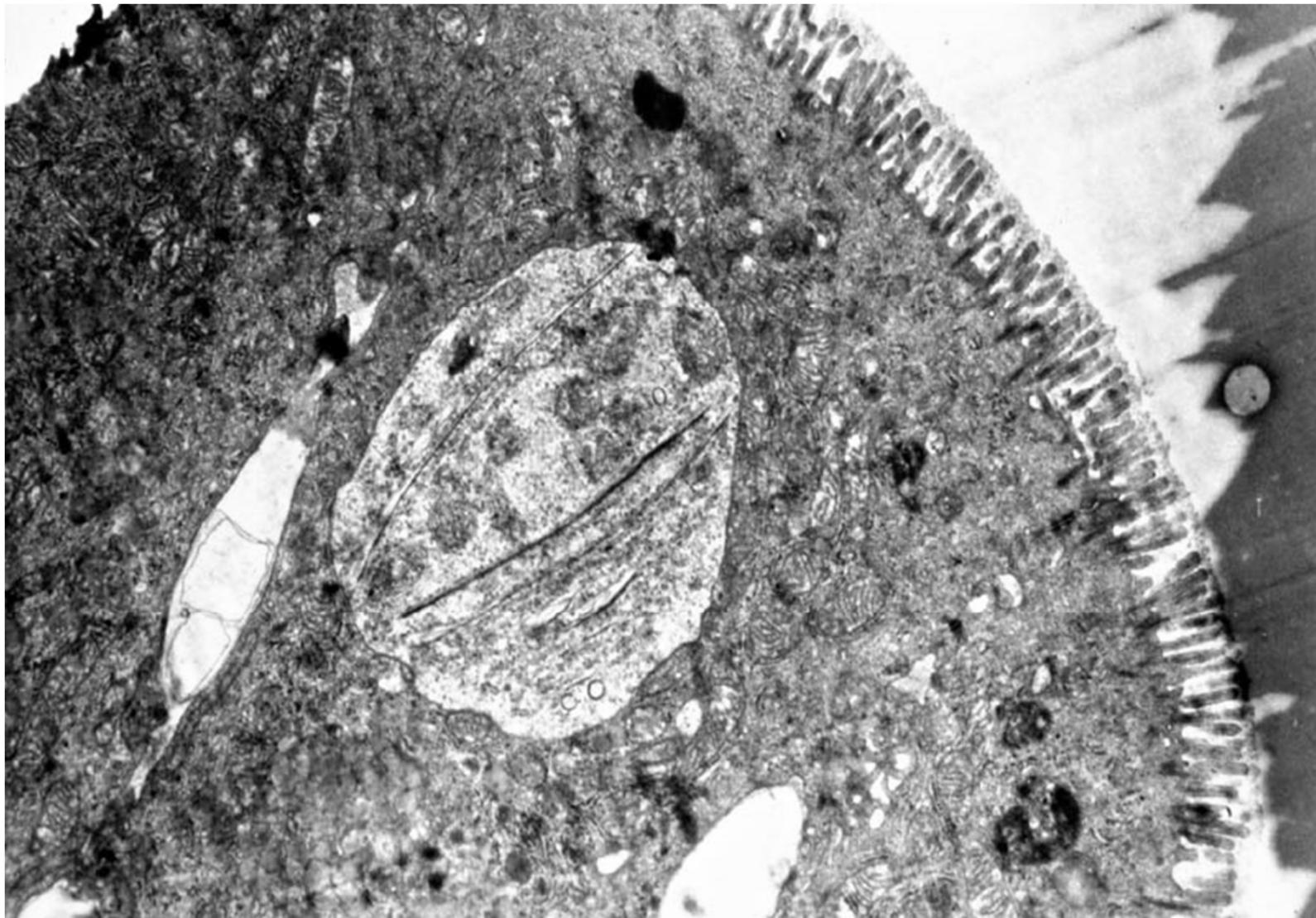


# Klinische Parasitologie in Nederland: zoekt en gij zult vinden...!

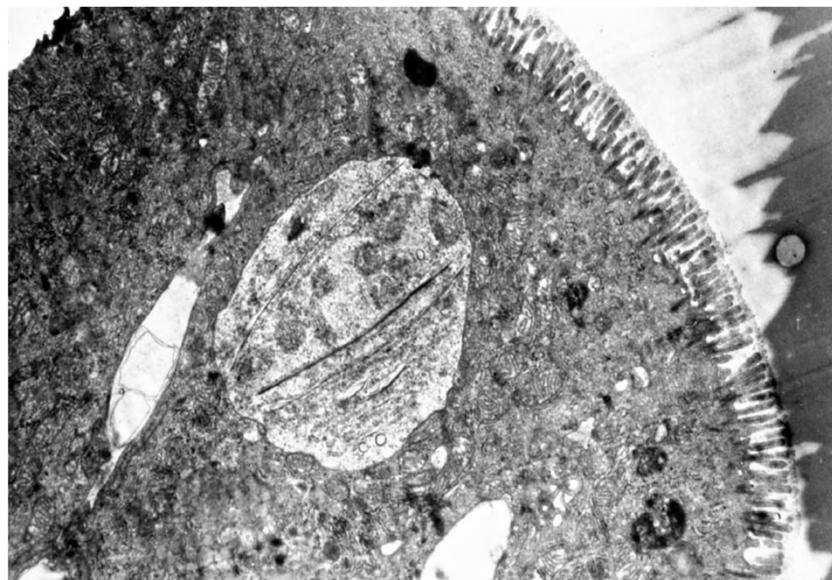
Tom van Gool  
Sectie Klinische Parasitologie  
Amsterdam UMC



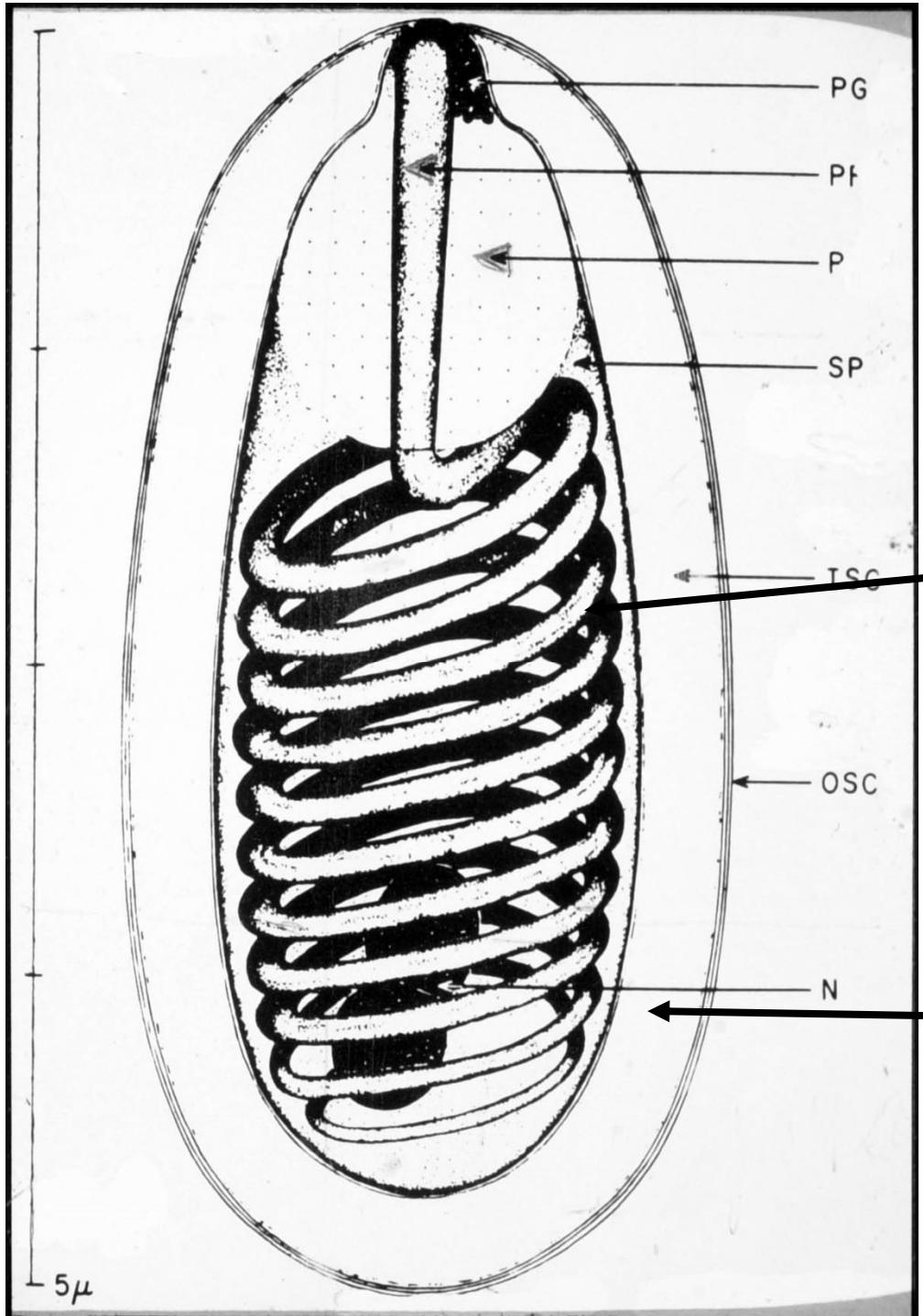


A unique finding in Paris in 1985.....

Prof. Isabelle Desportes  
Hôpital Pitié-Salpêtrière (Paris)



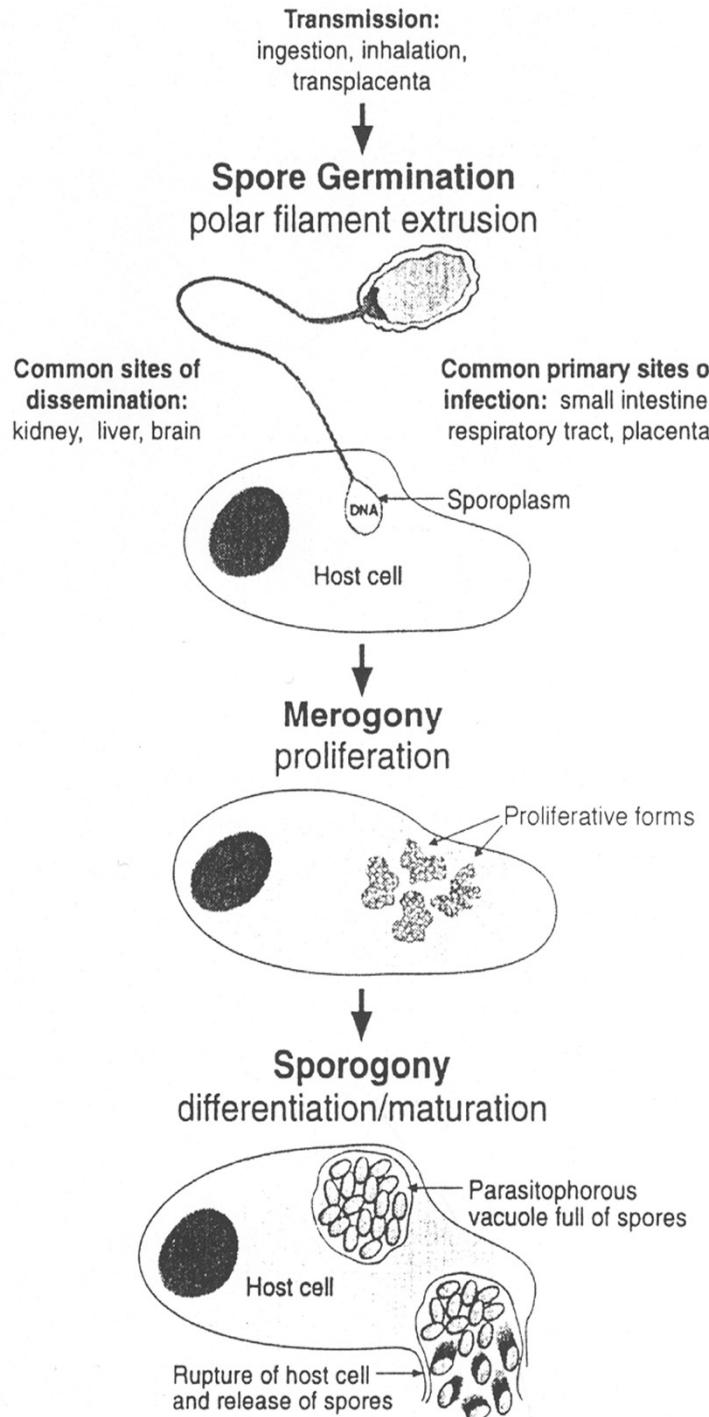
“Small parasite belonging to the microsporidia but  
Is a new, unknown species”: *Enterocytozoon bieneusi*



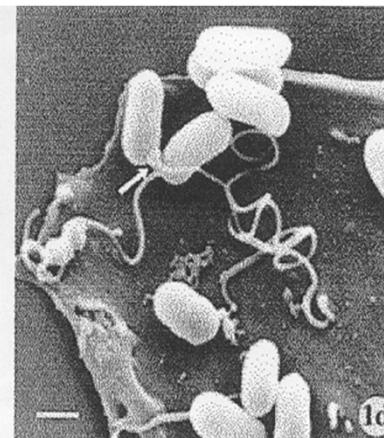
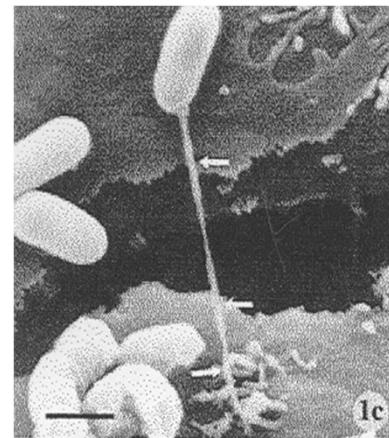
## Typical spore stage of microsporidia

Coiled polar filament

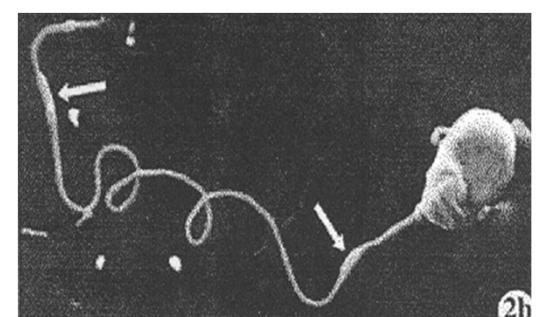
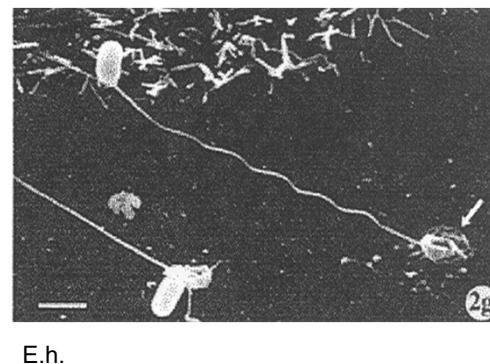
Thick exospore  
with chitin



# Life cycle of microsporidia (*Encephalitozoon*)



E.i.



2b

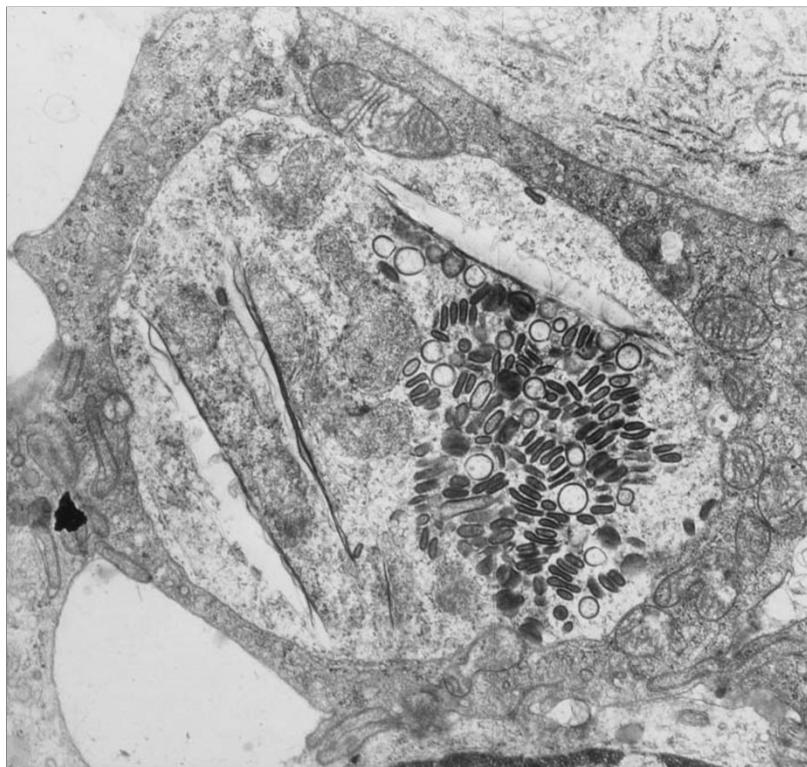
E.h.

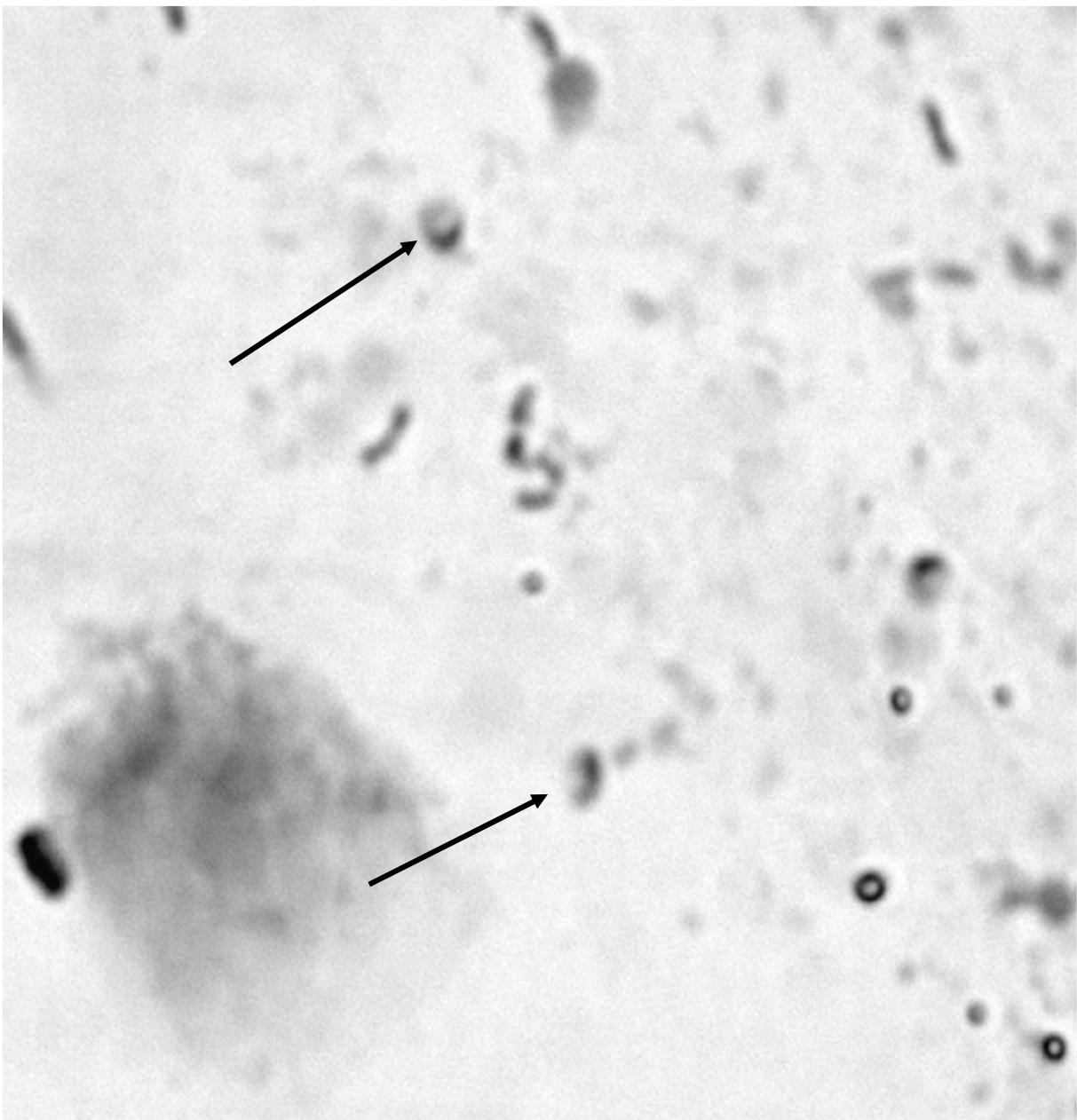
Schottelius MI 2000

# Microsporidia

- obligate intracellular protozoan parasites
- more than 144 genera and 1200 species
- important parasites in all phyla of animals

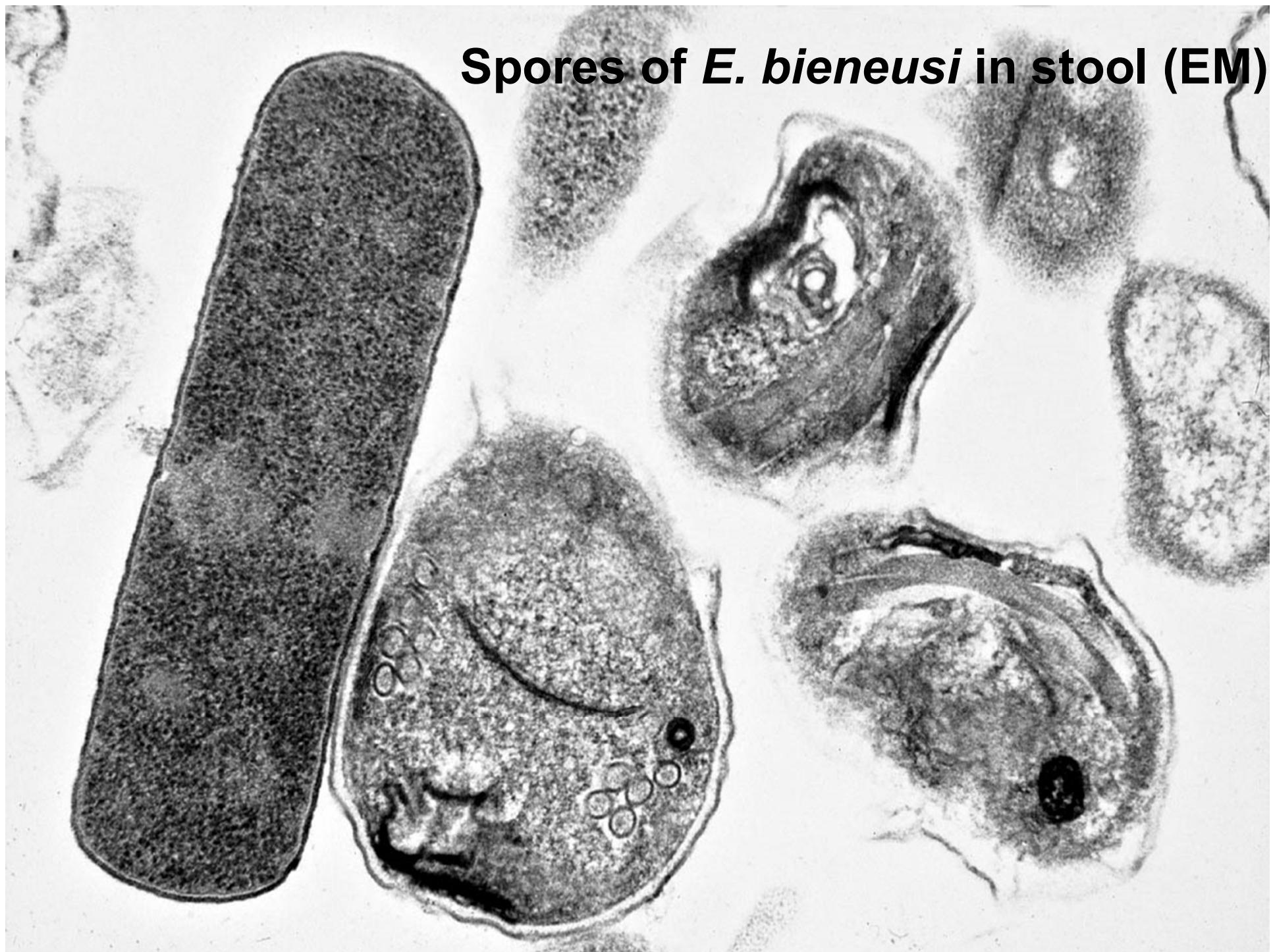
Diagnosis of human microsporidiosis 1985:  
electron microscopy of duodenal biopsies

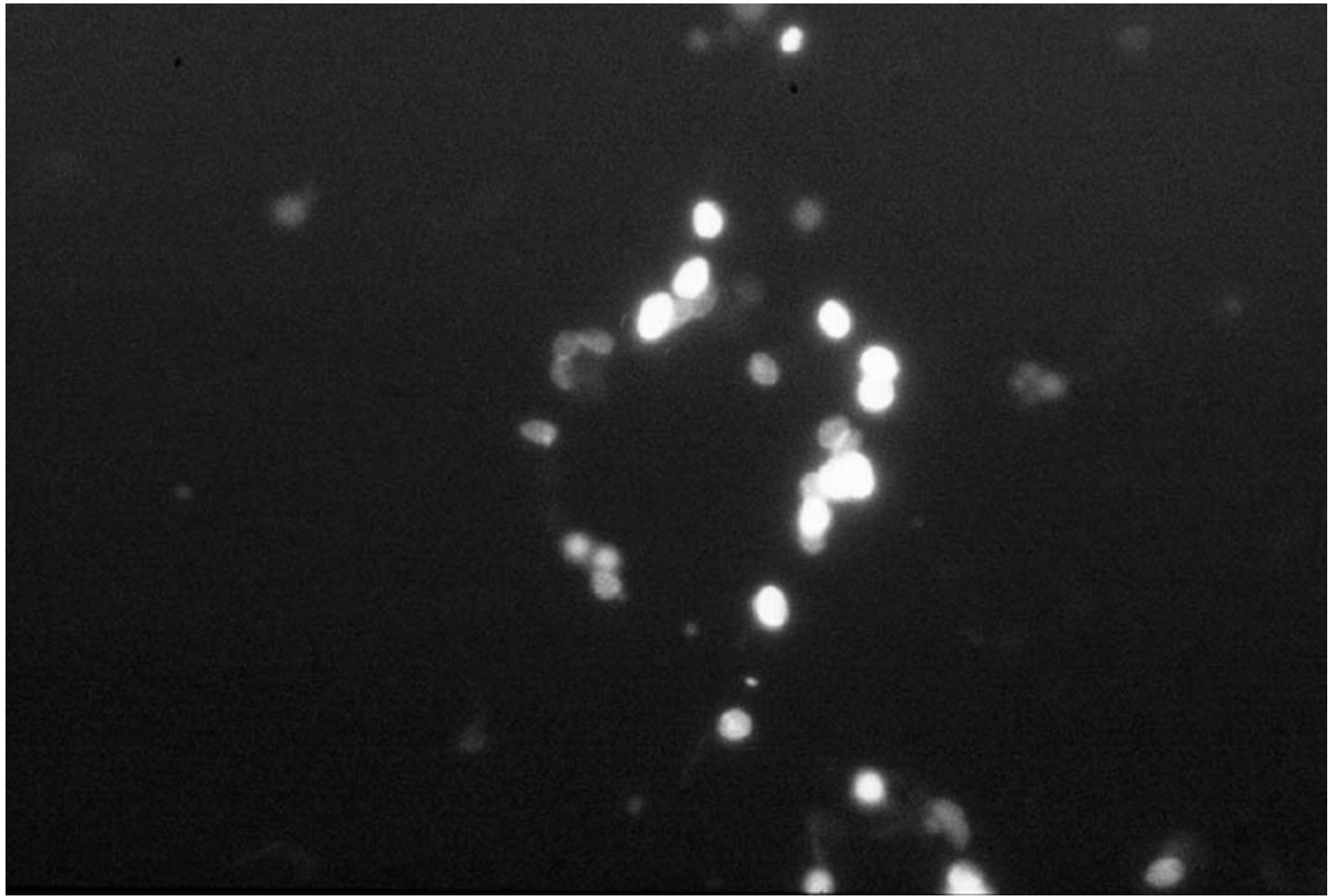




Spores of *E. bieneusi*  
in stool (Giemsa stain)

**Spores of *E. bieneusi* in stool (EM)**





*E. bieneusi* with Uvitex 2B stain

## **Clinical significance of small-intestinal microsporidiosis in HIV-1-infected individuals**

J. K. M. EEFTINCK SCHATTENKERK T. VAN GOOL  
R. J. VAN KETEL J. F. W. M. BARTELSMAN CARLA L. KUIKEN  
W. J. TERPSTRA P. REISS

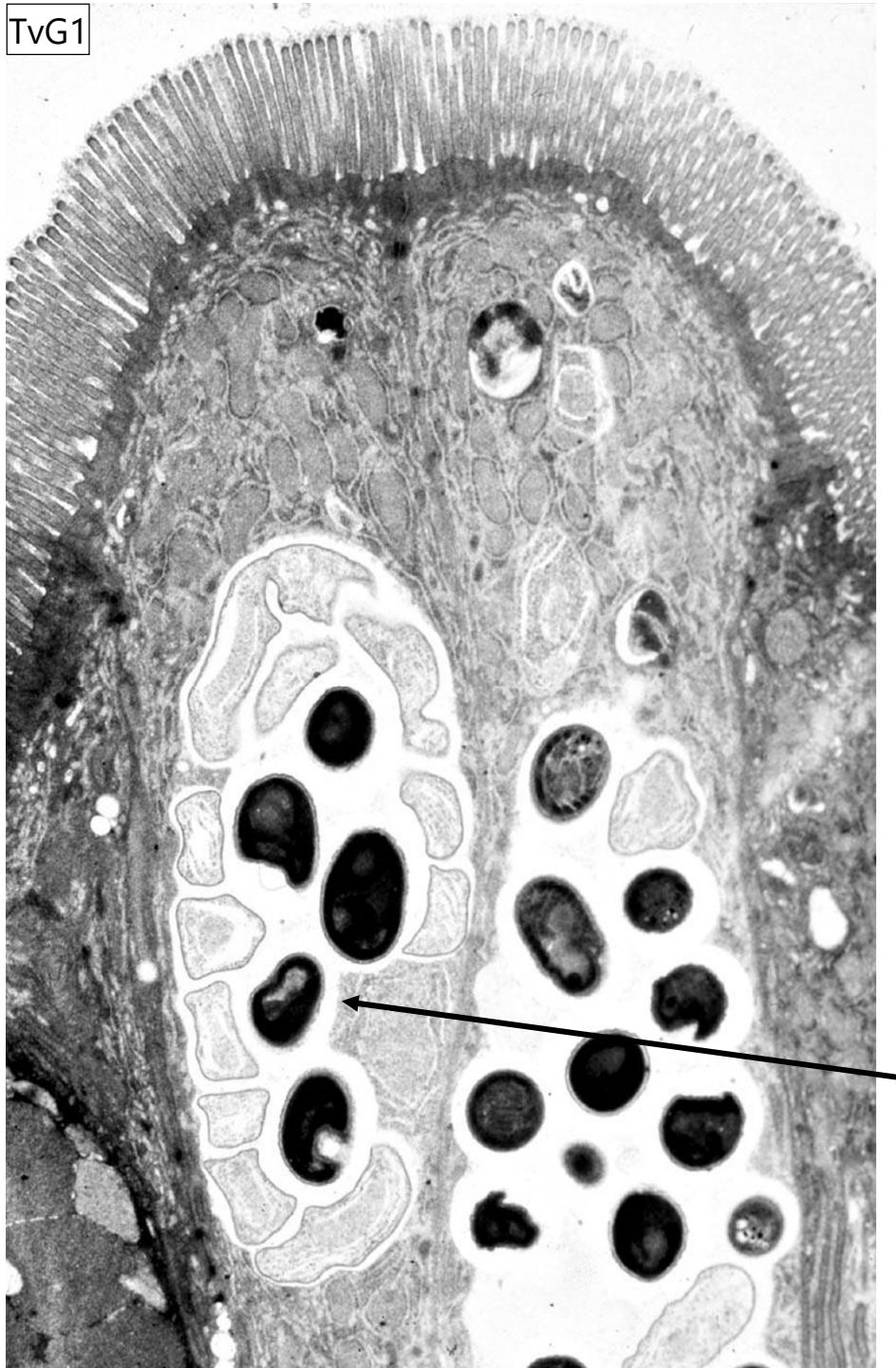
The Lancet, Clinical Practice, 1991

- chronic diarrhea
- cholangiopathy
- rhinosinusitis
- HIV infected patients CD 4 <100

## Treatment *E. bieneusi*

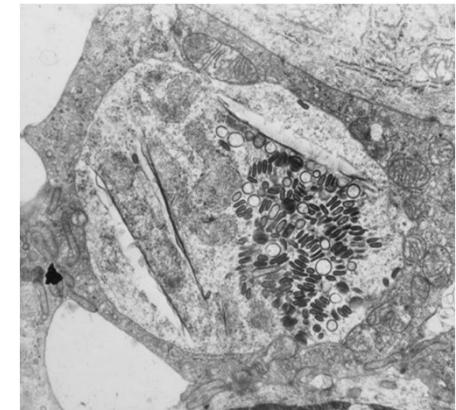
- Difficult!!
- In AIDS: fumagillin, effective but can be toxic.
- With improvement antiretroviral treatment in HIV (and improved function of immune system): disappearance of infection!
- Non-HIV immunosuppression: lowering dosage of immunosuppressive drugs can be useful

TvG1



A peculiar finding !!

*Encephalitozoon spp.*  
in epithelial cell of small  
intestine



Parasitophorous vacuole with  
sporoblasts and spores.....

## Dia 13

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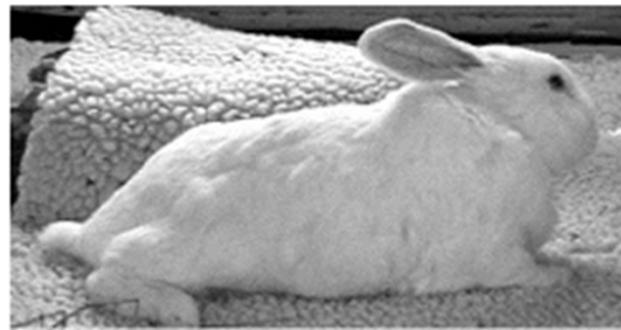
**TvG1**

Tom van Gool; 12-02-2020

Parasite in EM much resemblance with  
*Encephalitozoon cuniculi*

→ Severe pathology in animals i.e. CNS  
and kidneys

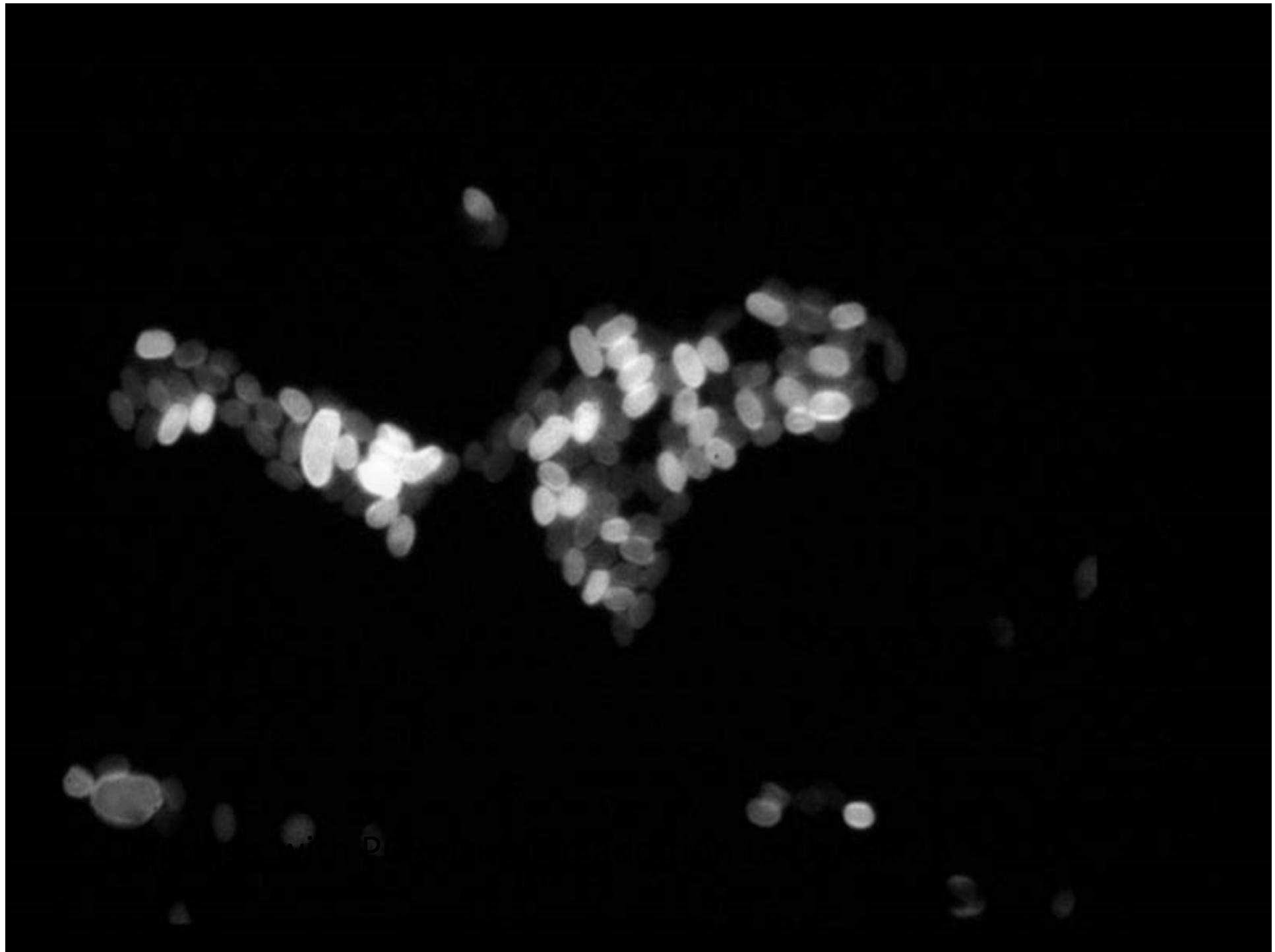
*HOUSE RABBIT SOCIETY*



“Phoebe”



Torticollis



## Pathology due to *Encephalitozoon* infections in AIDS: involvement of multiple organs

Diarrhea and disseminated infection:  
cholangitis, hepatitis, nephritis, rhinosinusitis,  
keratoconjunctivitis, bronchopneumonia,  
urethritis, encephalitis

# Treatment of *Encephalitozoon* species

- Albendazole 400 mg twice a day for 4 weeks
  - Rapid disappearance of spores from body fluids
  - Prolonged treatment necessary to prevent relapses

## Microsporidiosis in immunosuppression other than AIDS: increased no. of positives !!

- Solid organ transplantation (kidney, heart- long and liver)
- Bone marrow transplant recipiënts.

*E. bieneusi*: prolonged diarrhea

*Encephalitozoon* spp.: multiple organ involvement

Microsporidiosis most common in persons with AIDS:

up to 10-20% positives in cases

with chronic diarrhea!

Infection also in immunocompetent individuals?

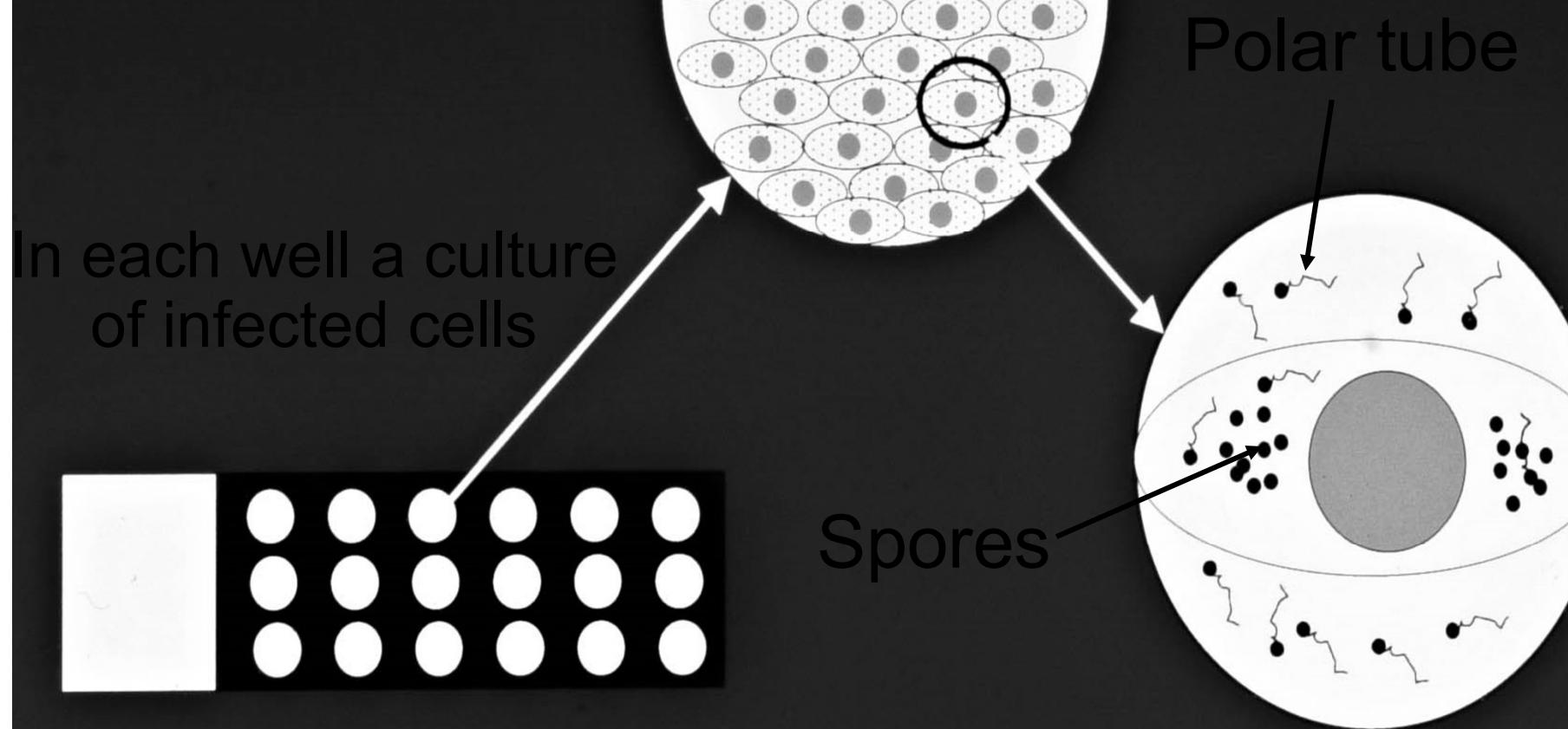
# Microsporidia in immunocompetent persons

- often non-severe, self limiting diarrhea (travellers)
- associated with eye infection
- frequent in rural areas, developing countries
- microsporidia reported: i.e, *E. bieneusi*, *E. intestinalis*

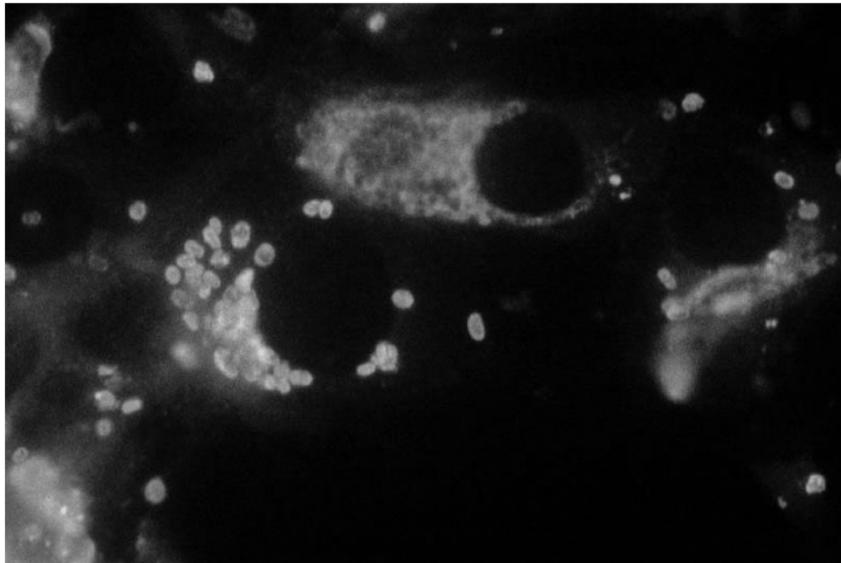
But in *immunocompetent cases* other diagnostic methods could be useful:

- ➡ Because of *short duration of shedding*  
detection of spores less useful
- ➡ Serodiagnosis (antibodies are long persisting)  
potential useful!

# New specific IFAT test



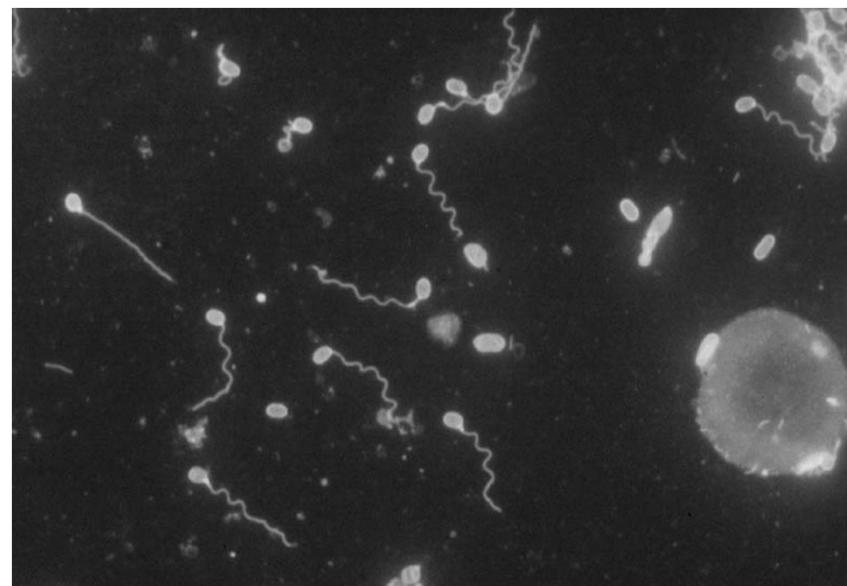
Different antigens recognized with different sera!



sporewall only



polar tube only



sporewall and  
polartube

Three groups studied (total : 1053 persons)

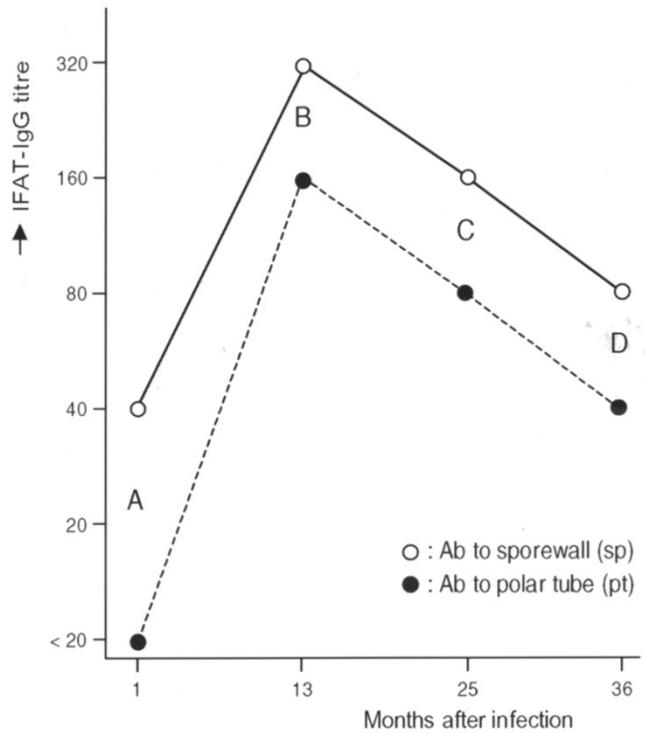
France (Paris): 490 pregnant women

Netherlands : 210 pregnant women

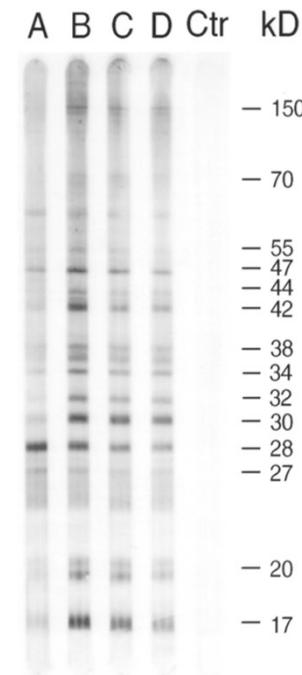
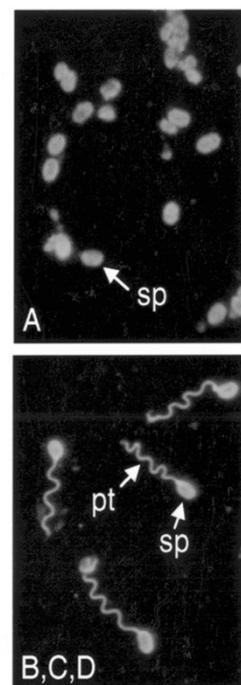
Netherlands: 350 (HIV- negative) homosexual men

Prevalence of specific antibodies up to 25%!!

# Serological responses in immunocompetent person (1-36 months after infection)



A      B      C      D



# Microsporidia from humans in other hosts and environment

# How do people come in contact with microsporidia?

- Humans: *E. bieneusi*, *E. intestinalis*, *E. hellem*, *E. cuniculi*, *Vittaforma corneae*,  
*Nosema oocularum*, *Brachiola spp.*, *Trachipleistophora spp.*,  
*Pleistophora spp* and *Microsporidium spp.*
- Animals: *Enterocytozoon bieneusi* i.e.: cats, chickens, dogs, goats, pigs, cattle, rats  
+++ *Encephalitozoon intestinalis* i.e.: donkeys, dogs, pigs, cows, goats, gorillas  
*Encephalitozoon cuniculi*: i.e.: rabbits, rodents, foxes, goats, horses, birds  
*Encephalitozoon hellem* i.e.: birds
- Water: *E. bieneusi*, *E. intestinalis*, *Nosema*, *Pleistophora spp*, *Vittaforma cornea*  
+
- Food: *Pleistophora spp.*  
+/-
- Insects: *Brachiola algera*, *Nosema cornea*  
+/-

Microsporidia are (indeed) close by.....

studies among Dutch pigeons



Study of 331 pigeon feces collected in  
several townships of Amsterdam

Examined for psittacosis: 26 positive (7.9 %)

# Frequent Occurrence of Human-Associated Microsporidia in Fecal Droppings of Urban Pigeons in Amsterdam, The Netherlands<sup>▽</sup>

Aldert Bart,<sup>1,\*</sup> Ellen M. Wentink-Bonnema,<sup>1</sup> Edou R. Heddema,<sup>1,3</sup> Jan Buijs,<sup>2</sup> and Tom van Gool<sup>1,4</sup>

Sequence confirmed *Microsporidia* positive PCR: 41/331 (12%)  
pigeon feces positive for microsporidia

36/331 (11%) contain human pathogens:

- 18 (5.4%) *Enterocytozoon bieneusi*
- 11 (3.3%) *Encephalitozoon hellem*
- 6 (1.8%) *Encephalitozoon cuniculi*
- 1 (0.3%) *Encephalitozoon intestinalis*

5/331 other Microsporidia

Examined for psittacosis (331): 26 positive (7.9 %)\* !

# Contact of humans with microsporidia easy:

Sweeping surfaces which are contaminated with excreta (guano) from pigeons.....\*



- Roof building in Baltimore:
- stay for 10 - 550 pigeons/ per day
- effect of sweeping 30 min for humans:

Air, personal sampler: ingestion 3500 viable spores *E. bieneusi* in 30 min!!!

• Graczyk et al, 2007 Applied Environmental Microbiology

# Microsporidia and humans

- Frequent contact microsporidia with humans
- With proper immune system, in healthy persons, infection most often early aborted
- Can be cause of pathology not yet properly recognised (i.e.diarrhoea, encephalitis)

Pigeons excreta in the car:



*On the sponge after washing : a nice microsporidia coctail with Enterocytozoon sp, Encephalitozoon sp, Vittaforma sp. and others.....*

# Cyclospora: the “overlooked” parasite



VOC  
BATAVIA 1577

# History

1979 Ashford. Papua New Guinea.

Undescribed coccidian parasite. Oocysts with  
4 sporozoites

1986 Soave. Patients in Haiti and Mexico with  
diarrhea. Structures 8 -10  $\mu\text{m}$ , defined  
wall, granular material inside: coccidian  
body/fungal spore.

110001

Vol. 28, No. 6

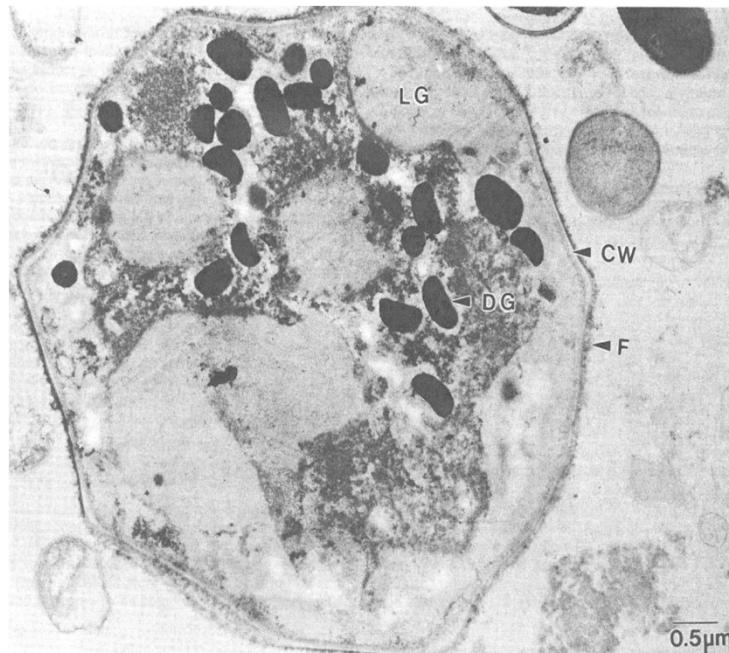
1990

## Alga Associated with Diarrhea in Patients with Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome and in Travelers

EARL G. LONG,<sup>1\*</sup> ADELEH EBRAHIMZADEH,<sup>2</sup> ELIZABETH H. WHITE,<sup>1</sup> BILLIE SWISHER,<sup>1</sup> AND CAREY S. CALLAWAY<sup>1</sup>

*Experimental Pathology Branch, Division of Immunologic, Oncologic, and Hematologic Diseases, Center for Infectious Diseases, Centers for Disease Control, Atlanta, Georgia 30333,<sup>1</sup> and Parasitology Laboratory, New York City Department of Health Bureau of Laboratories, New York, New York 10016<sup>2</sup>*

Received 15 November 1989/Accepted 8 February 1990

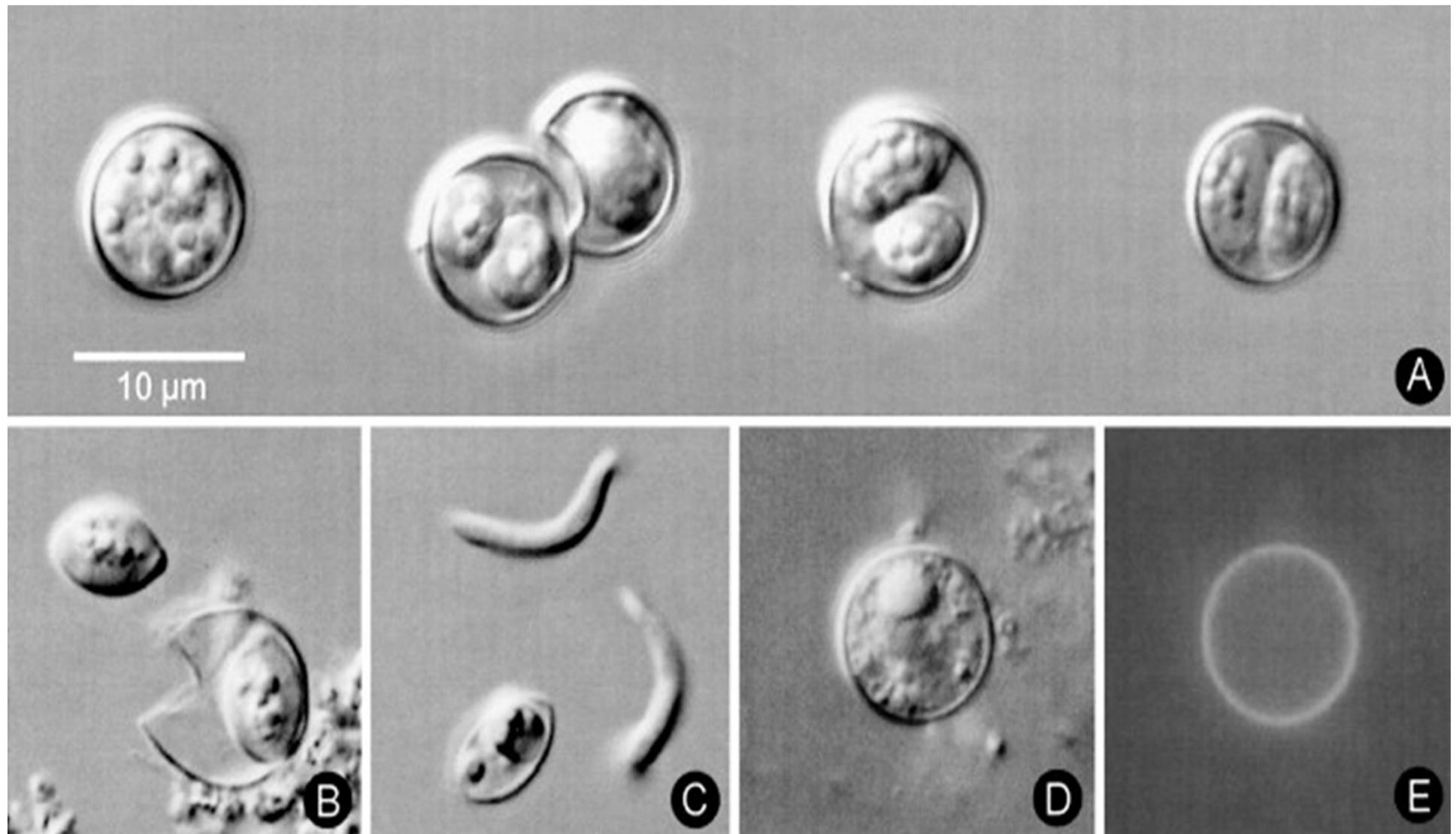


1992 Ortega. Peru.

Sporulation and excystation of oocysts in 2 sporocysts each with 2 sporozoites.

EM of sporozoites characteristic for coccidian protoza ! No alga at all.....

# Developmental stages of oocysts of Cyclospora

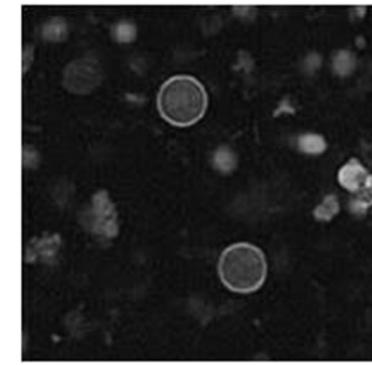
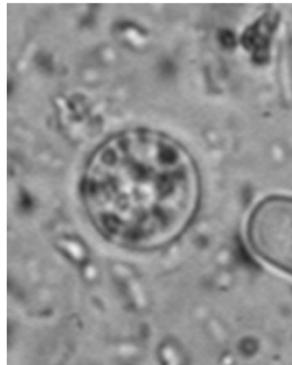


## Coccidian parasite belongs to genus *Cyclospora*

- Oocyst with 2 sporocysts, each with two sporozoites
- Human infection due to other *Cyclospora* species not described
- *Cyclospora* spp. well known in insects, reptiles and rodents, especially moles. Animal cyclosporons have larger oocysts.
- Life cycle of human *Cyclospora* unknown: intermediate host can be involved

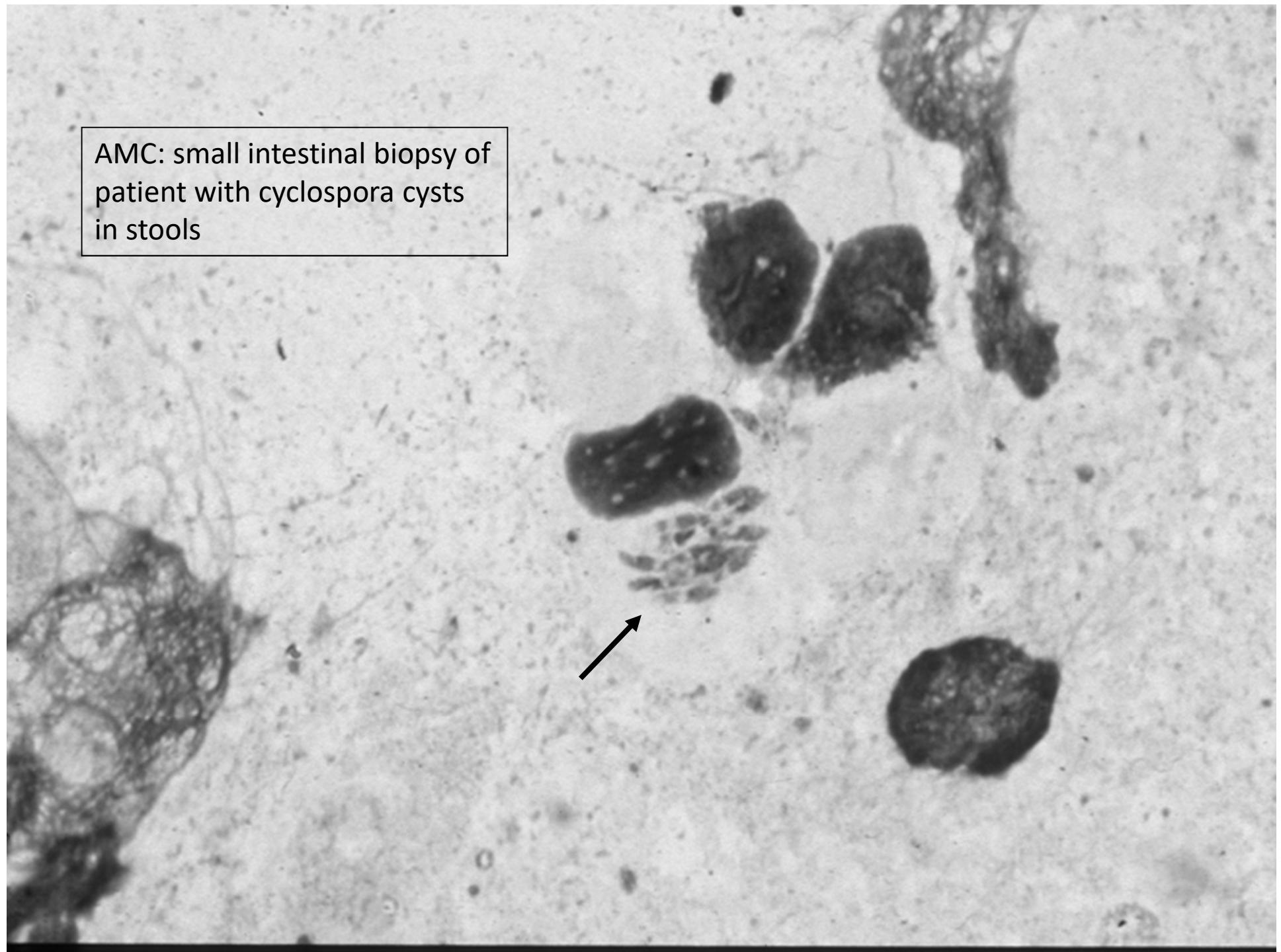
## Diagnosis: relative easy with microscopy!

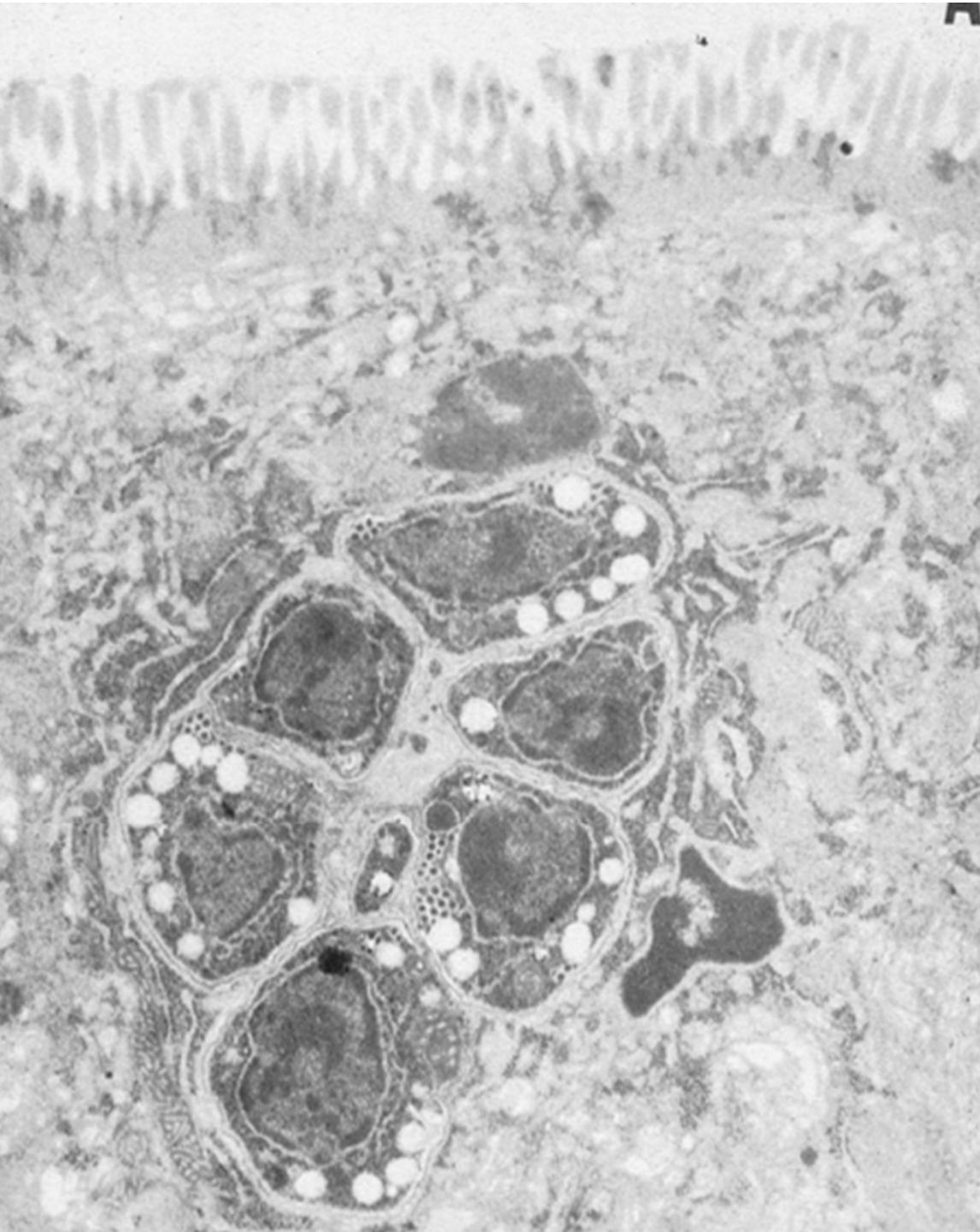
- 8-10 um with several globlets inside.
- when properly trained technicians “cannot miss it”!!



*Parasites in stool but what is the site of infection in the intestine?*

AMC: small intestinal biopsy of patient with cyclospora cysts in stools





Electron microscopy of  
Cyclospora in small intestine

# Symptomatology associated with Cyclospora infection

- patients often feel very ill!
- predominant symptom: watery diarrhea often in relapsing, cyclical pattern
- important **associated** symptoms:
  - heartburn-like symptoms, abdominal cramps
  - fatigue
  - anorexia, weight loss (up to 10 kg!) and vomiting
- infection may last for weeks (but is self-limiting)



Treatment of Cyclospora infection ?

AMC, Amsterdam: two patients treated with co-trimoxazole  
strong relief of complaints, but not sufficient evidence for  
proof of efficacy.

THE LANCET

---

## Placebo-controlled trial of co-trimoxazole for cyclospora infections among travellers and foreign residents in Nepal

*Charles W Hoge, David R Shlim, Madhu Ghimire, J Gregory Rabold, Prativa Pandey, Anne Walch, Ramachandran Rajah, Paul Gaudio, Peter Echeverria*

---

Lancet: March 1995

In case of severe complaints:

Co-trimoxazole (trimethoprim - sulfamethoxazole  
(160/800 mg) 2x dd for 7-10 days

Fast effect after start of treatment!

But....

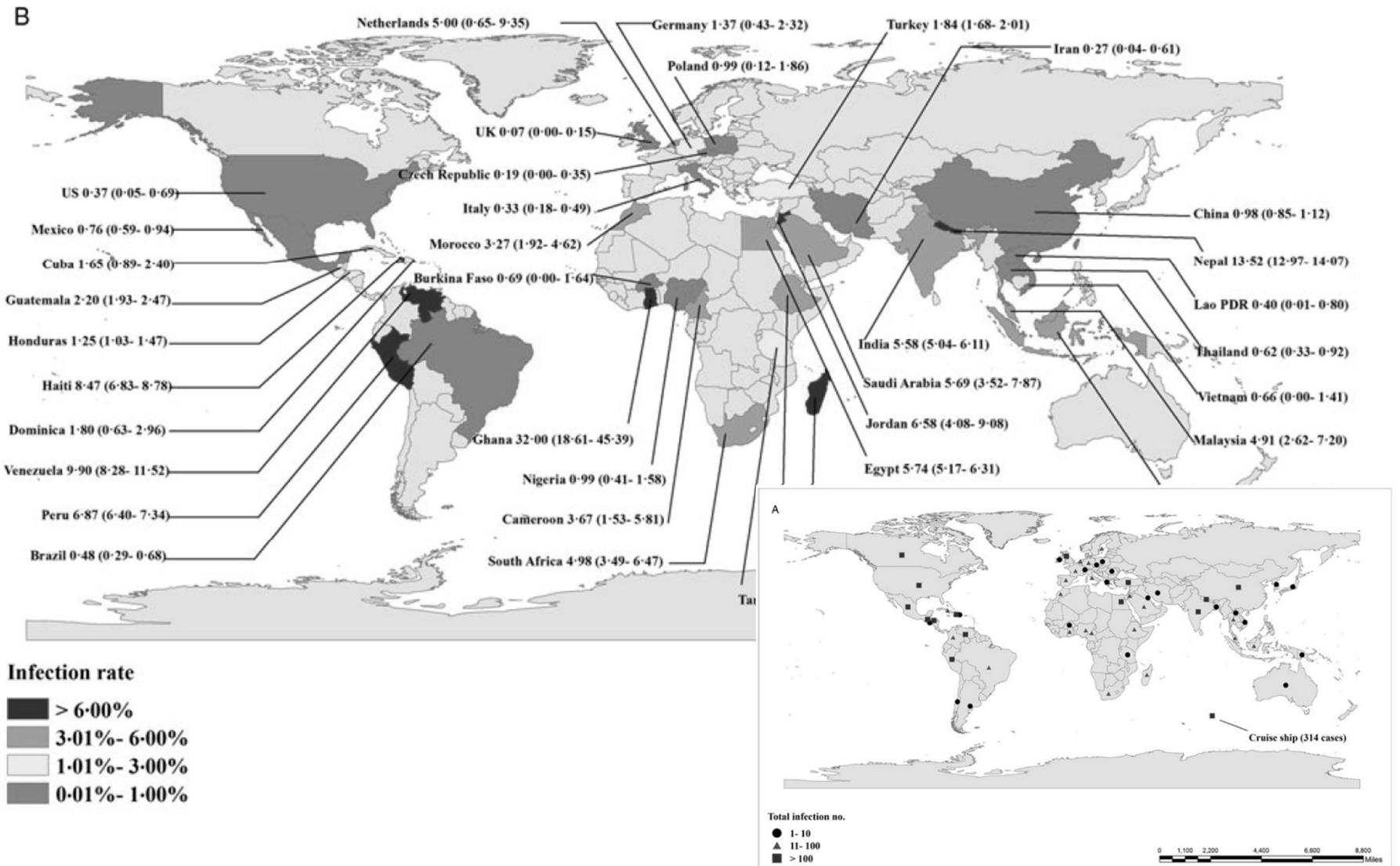
Cyclospora infection is self-limiting:

symptoms mild or absent: no treatment !

# Epidemiology

- High prevalence in tropical countries
- Low prevalence in western countries
- Occasionally observed in travellers from tropics

# Prevalence Cyclospora infection worldwide



# Transmission: contaminated food (i.e.produce), water..

**Prevalence:**  
many countries

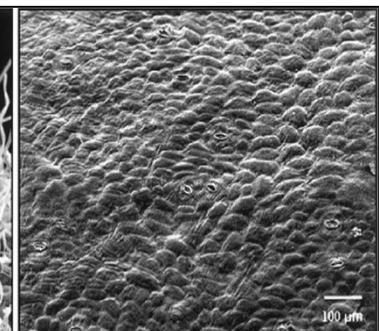
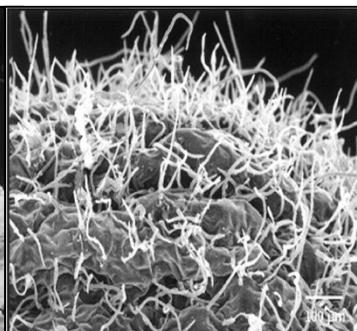
- Latin America
  - Guatemala
  - Peru
  - Mexico
- India
- SE Asia
- Also USA....



USA 2018: multiple outbreaks > 2000 cases (no int. travel)

A foodborne outbreak of  
*Cyclospora cayetanensis* at a wedding

Fleming C.A. et al. Arch Intern Med  
Vol 158, May 25, 1998



Contaminated raspberries from Guatemala

# Heftige jeuk én productie van wormeieren in de darm bij reizigers.....

Michèle van Vugt,  
Aldert Bart,  
Tom van Gool

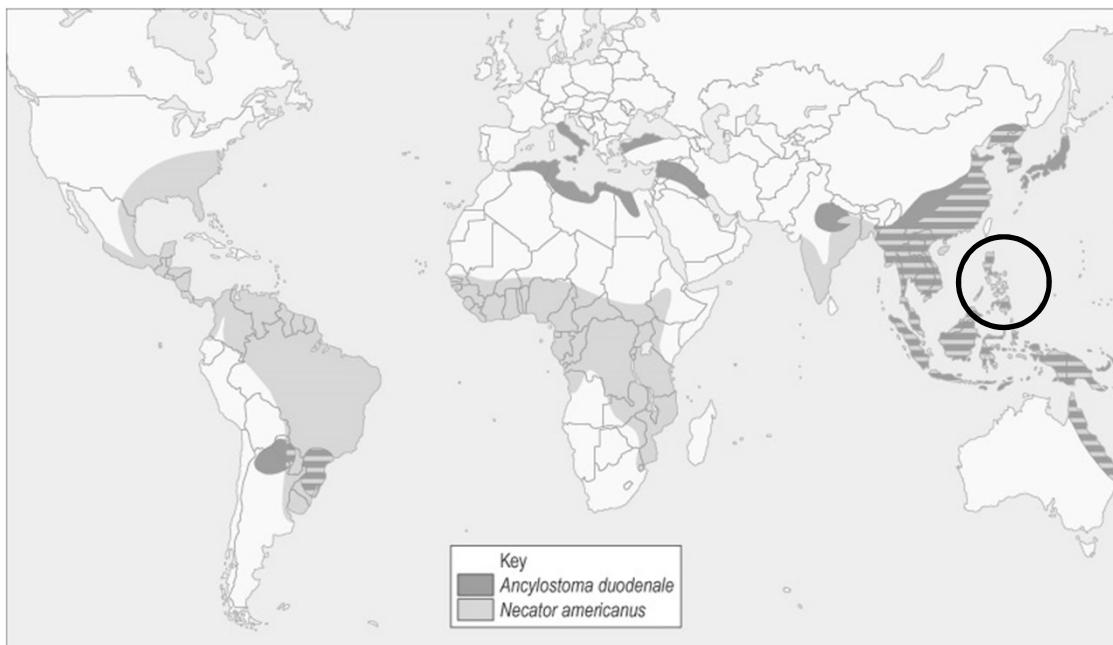
Herhaling feces onderzoek met DFT )



Mijnworm eieren....!!...????

# Mijnwormen bij de mens

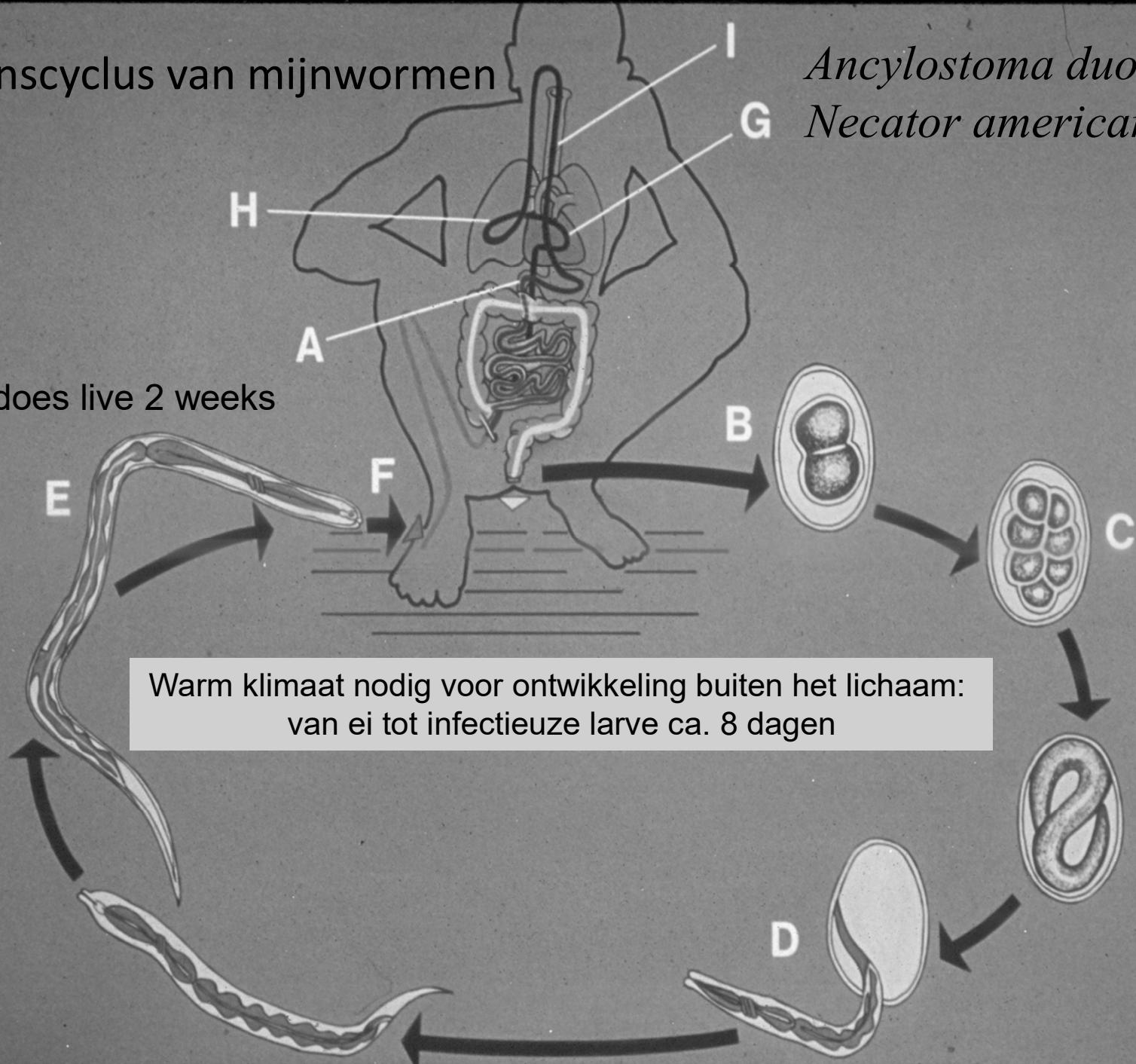
- Infectie met mijnwormen komt frequent voor: naar schatting bij 1 miljard mensen waarvan de helft in de Azië/ Pacific
- Bij de mens de meest voorkomende soorten  
*Ancylostoma duodenale en Necator americanus*



## Levenscyclus van mijnwormen

*Ancylostoma duodenale*  
*Necator americanus*

Stage does live 2 weeks





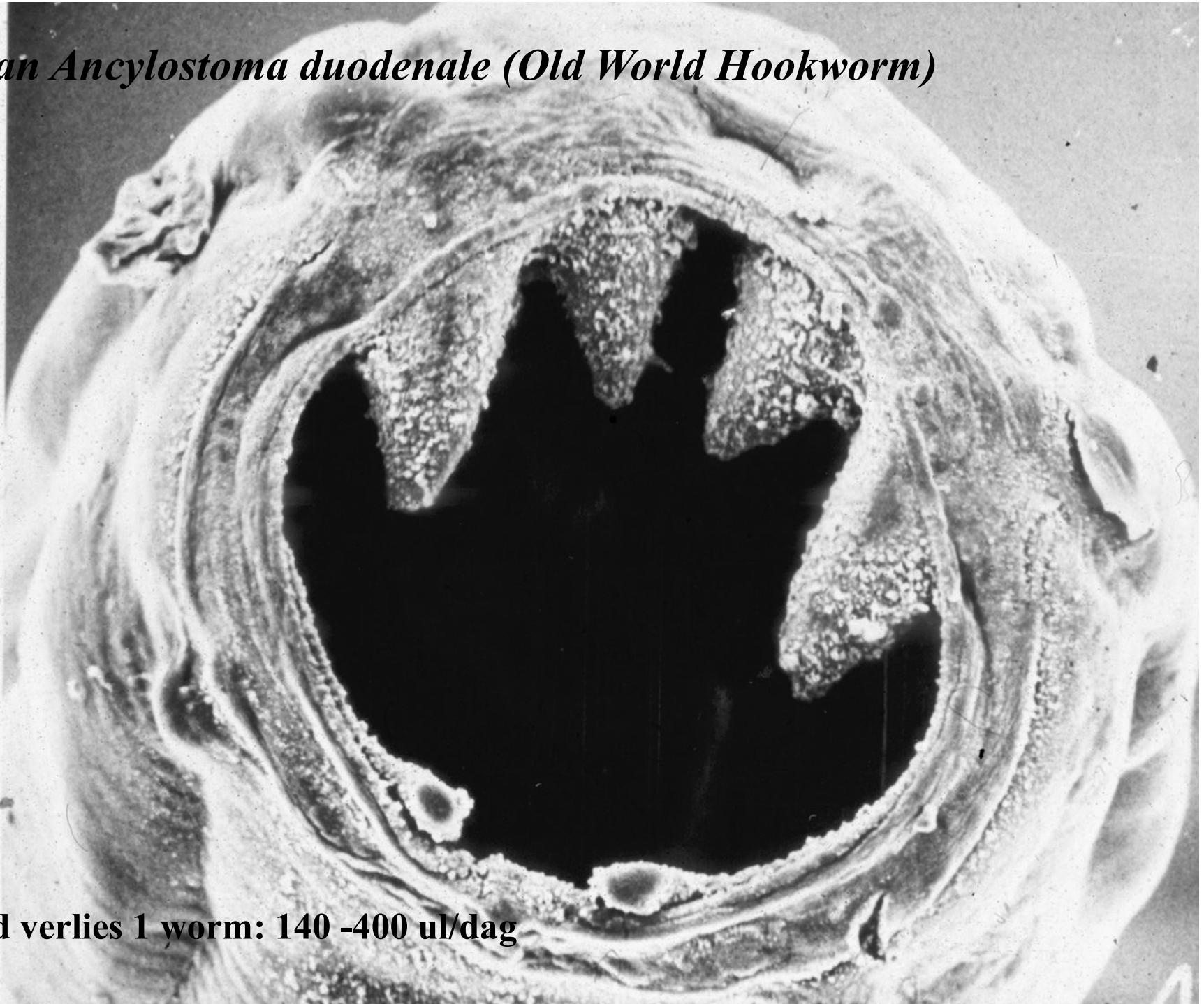
Filariforme larva van mijnwormen penetreren de huid.....

hierbij vorming van papels die na enkele dagen verdwijnen



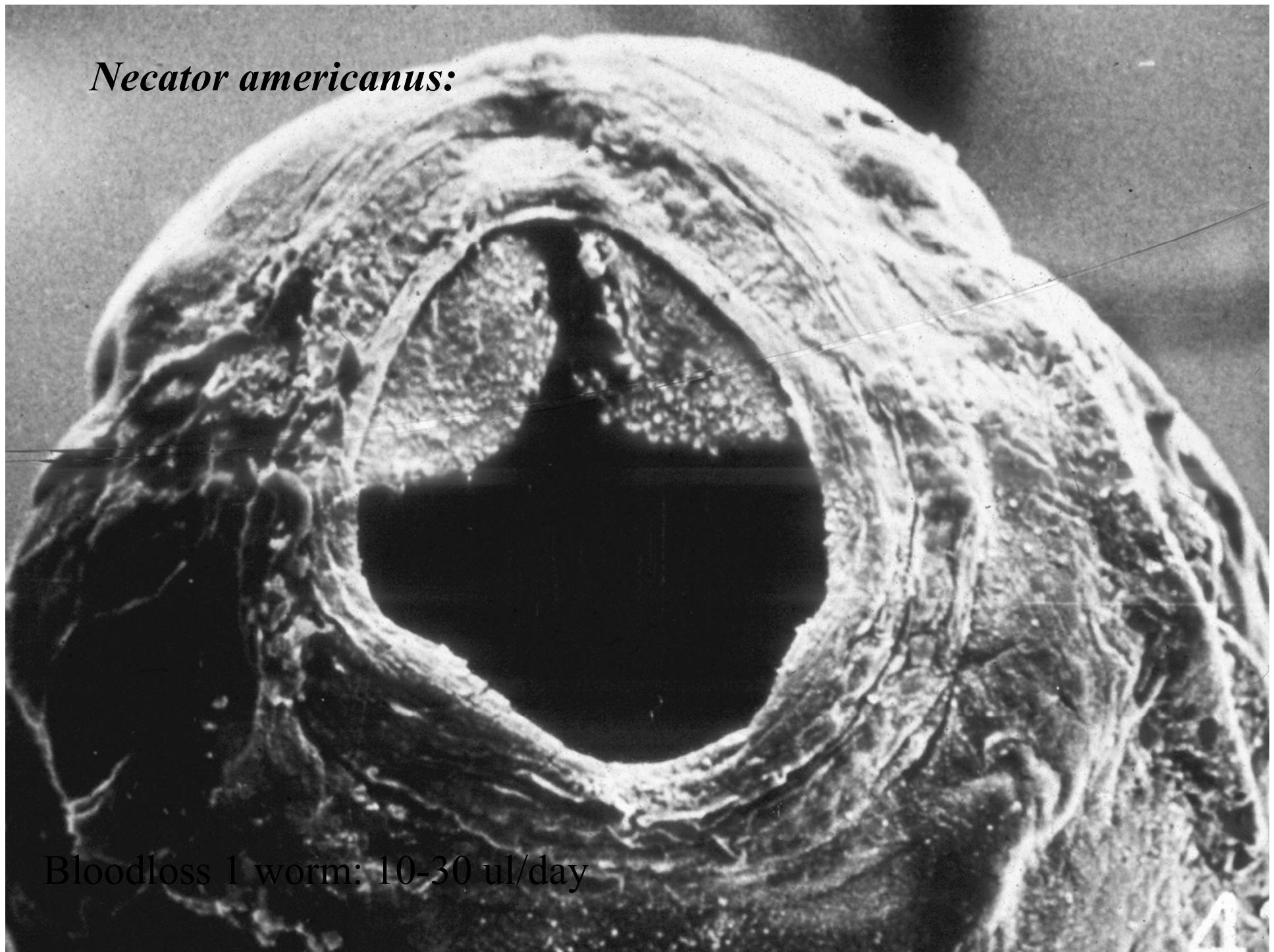
Mijnwormen zitten vast aan wand van de dunne darm  
Wormen kunnen 8-16 jaar overleven!

*Kop van Ancylostoma duodenale (Old World Hookworm)*



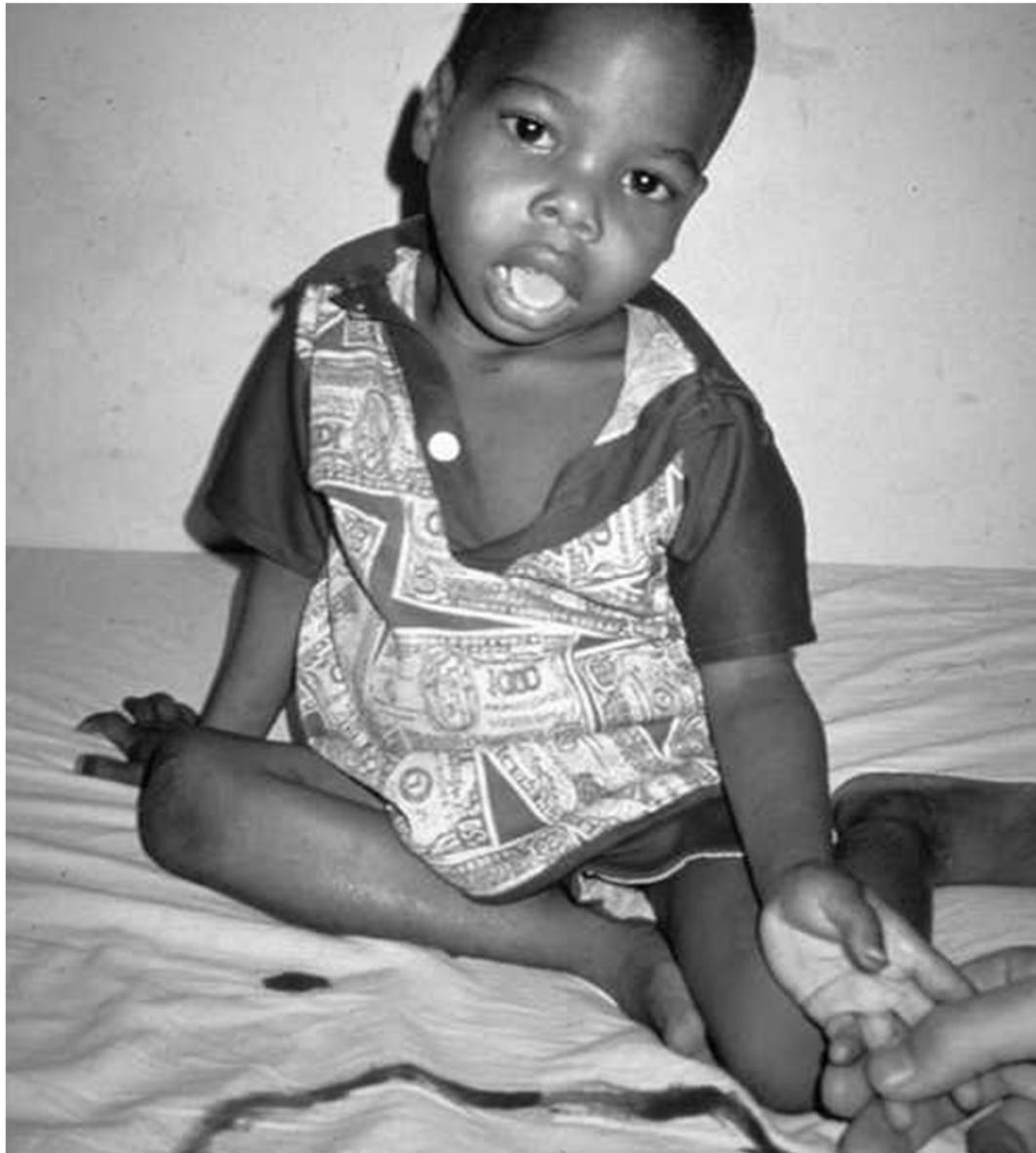
Bloed verlies 1 worm: 140 -400  $\mu$ l/dag

*Necator americanus:*



Bloodloss 1 worm: 10-30  $\mu$ l/day

## Belangrijkste symptoom mijnworminfecties: ernstige anaemie



clin. feat.



## Welke mijnworm-soort bij de patiënten?

### Afmetingen van eieren van wormen in feces van vrouw en man

Afmetingen eieren: *Ancylostoma duodenale* L 60 x B 40 um  
(literatuur)            *Necator americanus*            L 64 -75 x B 40 um

M: Gem: L: 59,25 um en B: 38,95 um

V: Gem: L: 57,6 um en B: 36,0 um

Grootte van eieren passen *mogelijk* bij een infectie met *A. duodenale*. Maar: grootte van eieren is niet bewijzend voor de soort!!

**Het lijkt een duidelijke zaak....**

echter.... de huidbeelden bij man en vrouw zijn  
ernstiger dan normaliter bij infectie met  
humane mijnwormen (*A. duodenale* en *N. americanus*) !!

Is er een mijnworm infectie waarbij zowel een heftig  
huidbeeld als de productie van eieren in de darm  
voorkomt?

# Huidafwijkingen bij de mens door worm infecties

## Larva currens

Strongyloides stercoralis



## Cercariën dermatitis

Zoönotische schistosomen

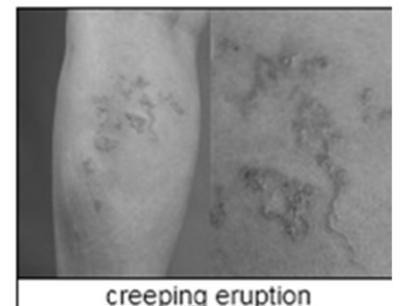


© 2002 Logical Images, Inc.

## Creeping eruption (larva migrans)

Zoönotische mijnwormen

*A. brasiliensis, A. canium, A. ceylanicum*



Source: Goldsmith LA, Katz SI, Gilchrest BA, Paller AS, Leffell DJ, Wolff K: Fitzpatrick's Dermatology in General Medicine, 6th ed, New York, McGraw-Hill, 2004, p 1100.

## Zoönotische mijnworminfecties ?

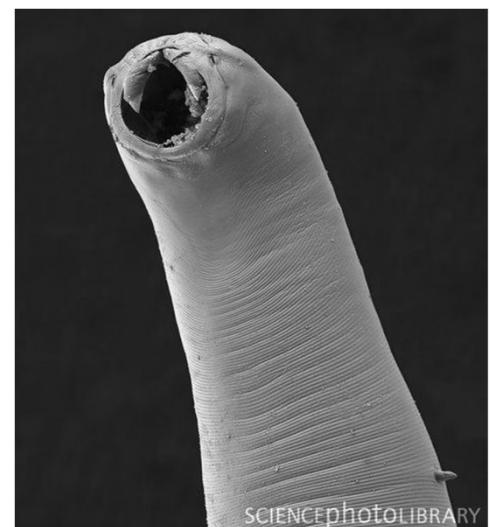
*A. braziliensis* en *A. canium* minder waarschijnlijk: bij infectie bij de mens: geen patente infectie (= eiproductie), en huidafwijkingen bij patiënten lijken niet op creeping eruption.

### **Resteert: *Ancylostoma ceylanicum***

- *mijnwormen van (vooral) honden en katten*
- *komt ook voor bij mens, mét patente infectie (eiproductie)*
- *bij mens vaak heftige (allergische) reactie op zich ontwikkelende wormen: buikpijn (bekend) en huidafwijkingen (minder bekend)*



*A. ceylanicum*



SCIENCEPHOTOLIBRARY

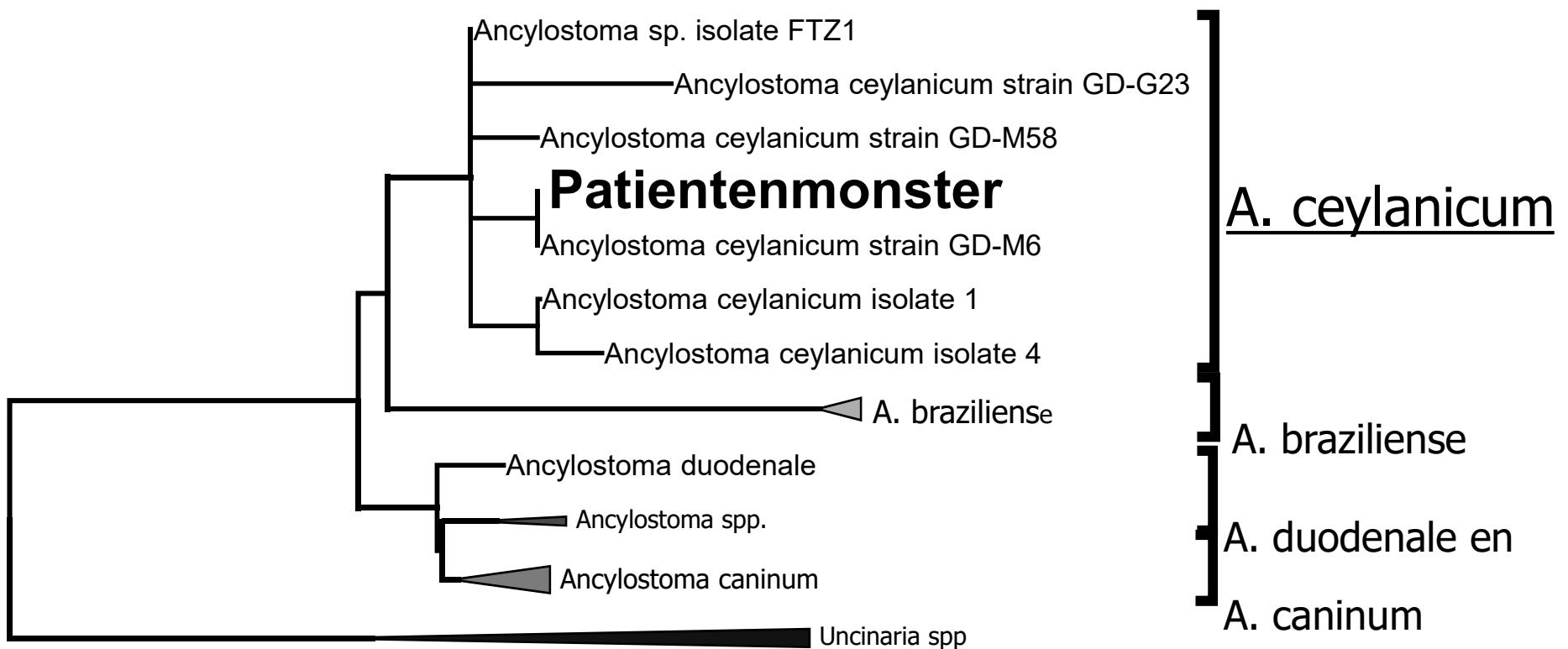


# Aanvullende moleculaire diagnostiek op microscopisch positieve feces

PCR Strongyloides spp (incl S. fulleborni): negatief

PCR mijnwormen: positief, obv sequentieanalyse

*Ancylostoma ceylanicum* !



## ***Ancylostoma ceylanicum***

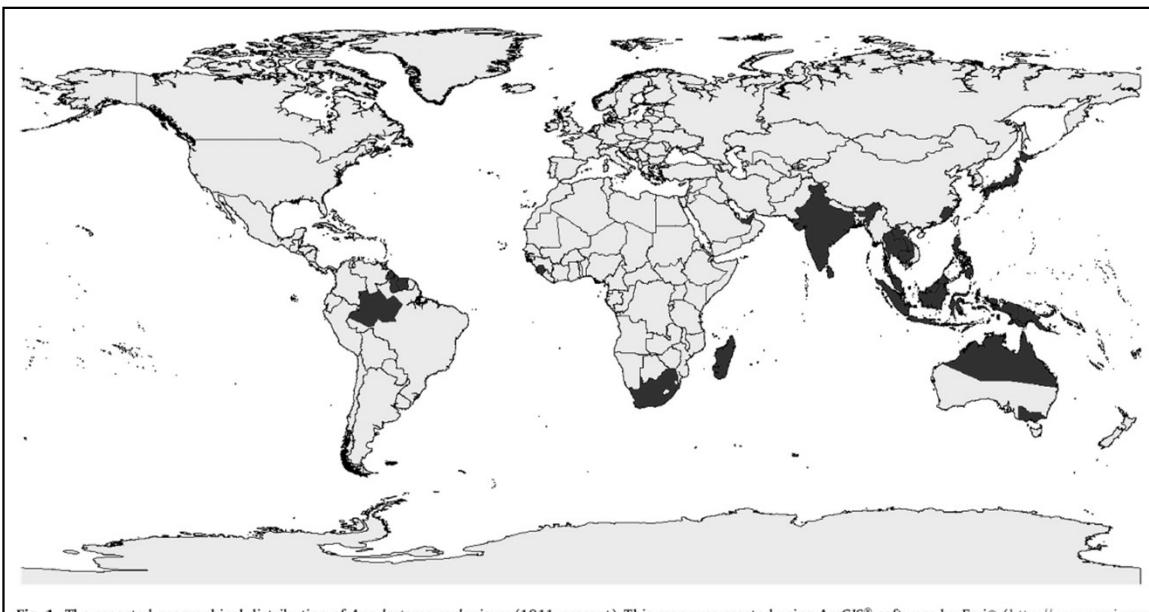
- Voor het eerst beschreven in 1911
- Van 1930 tot ca 1950 discussie over status (dd *A. braziliensis*)
- Microscopisch (eieren) niet goed te onderscheiden van  
*A. duodenale / N. americanus: decennia “neglected parasite”*
- Infectie via de huid of oraal, longpassage, en ontwikkeling in darm

Bij mens vaak heftige allergische reacties op ontwikkeling  
parasiet o.a. met buikpijn



# *Ancylostoma ceylanicum*

- *Met moleculaire identificatie: komt zeer frequent voor in ZO Azië*
- *Schatting: 19-73 miljoen patiënten geïnfecteerd met de parasiet in Thailand, Laos en Maleisië.*



Traub, Int. J. Parasit.  
2013

**AB11**

A. Bart; 20-05-2019

Met dank voor de attentie ...en  
Zoekt en gij zult vinden!!