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# Detection of *E. histolytica* , *G. lamblia* and *Cryptosporidium* Copro-Antigen in stool samples J.of Egyptian Society of Parasitology,vol.(32)No.(1) Aprif 2002

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## Abstract:

Abstract A double antibody sandwich ELISA technique, using a chromatography purified antisera against *E. histolytica*, *G. lamblia* and *Cryptosporidium* antigens, was applied to detect copro-antigens of the corresponding parasites in 90 patients. All positive cases were diagnosed by parasitological examination and proved to have the infection solely. Beside the 90 positive cases, 40 age-matched controls were included in the study, of which 20 individuals were infected with other parasites but not *Cryptosporidium*, *E. histolytica* or *G. lamblia* (acted as an infected control group) and the other 20 individuals with no intestinal parasites (normal control group). The assay could detect 100% of those infected with both of *G. lamblia* and *E. histolytica* and 96.6% (29/30) of patients with *Cryptosporidium* infection. False positive reactions were detected in 3 cases using *G. lamblia* antisera (92.5%), 5 cases using *E. histolytica* antisera (87.5%) and 2 cases using *Cryptosporidium* antisera (95%). A direct increase in the mean antigen level was observed with the increasing intensity of infection in the 3 parasites, so higher mean O.D. readings was observed in heavily infected cases than moderately infected cases than lighter intensity of infection. Only those in elder age group (> 20 years) infected with *E. histolytica* were found to have statistically higher O.D. readings of the antigen than middle age group (10-20 years). On the other hand, no statistically significant difference was observed between different age groups and antigen level in cases with either *G. lamblia* or *Cryptosporidium*.

## Keywords:

*E. histolytica* , *G. lamblia* , *Cryptosporidium* Copro-Antigen

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