Abstract

Parasites which are protozoa and helminths need to stay in hosts for surviving and then they can cause diseases or change their hosts to be carriers. From 280 cooks working in the restaurants or food shops, 10 - 67 years old, we found parasites from their feces as follows: E. histolytica cyst (5), E. coli cyst (1), G. lamblia cyst (5), B. hominis cyst (2), T. hominis (1), Strongyloides larva (3) and Hookworm (1). Three cases of G. lamblia cyst (1), B. hominis cyst (1) and Hookworm (1), we also found E. histolytica cyst in their feces too. All of the 18 infected cases (6.43%) were given the results of stool examinations for medical treatments. After the treatments, we repeated the process of the stool examinations. Unfortunately, we could follow up only 9 cases which were infected with E. histolytica (3), G. lamblia (1), B. hominis (2), T. hominis (1), Strongyloides (1) and Hookworm (1). The stool examinations of 8 cases were negative for the parasites of the intestinal tract. One case infected with E. histolytica was found protozoa in feces after first treatment and after repeated treatment, the third stool examination was negative. The reason we cannot follow up the rest because during that period of time, Thailand had the economic crisis and some restaurants or food shops were closed. In addition, some of them laid off their employees to decrease the expenses.