

Ocular Manifestation of Liver Fluke: A Little Mentioned Clinical Issue

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Opisthorchis viverrini infection or liver fluke infestation is a common tropical trematode disease. This infection can cause chronic biliary tract irritation and can result in a deadly malignancy, cholangiocarcinoma. The hepatobiliary presentation of opisthorchiasis is well documented. However, there might also be other atypical presentations. Here, I would like to draw attention to the ocular presentation of opisthorchiasis. In infected animals, the ocular manifestation of liver fluke infection is possible [1]. For humans, it is little mentioned [2,3]. The conjunctivitis might be a presentation of opisthorchiasis [2,3]. The exact pathophysiology is not well clarified but it might be an immunopathological process.

In fact, the ocular problem due to fluke might be well documented in some flukes. The most well-known problem is seen in fascioliasis [4,5]. Ophthalmofascioliasis is considered as an accidental parasitic infection and might be severe [4,5]. It should be noted that a parasitic infection in the hepatogastrointestinal tract might cause eye problems. Practitioners should recognize this possibility and include parasitic-related ocular problems in any patient from a tropical endemic area or having a history of visit to that area. Good history taking and recognition of possible problems are the clue for successful diagnosis and management.

Conflict of Interest

None.

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