

# ASCARIS LUMBRICOIDES Lab 1

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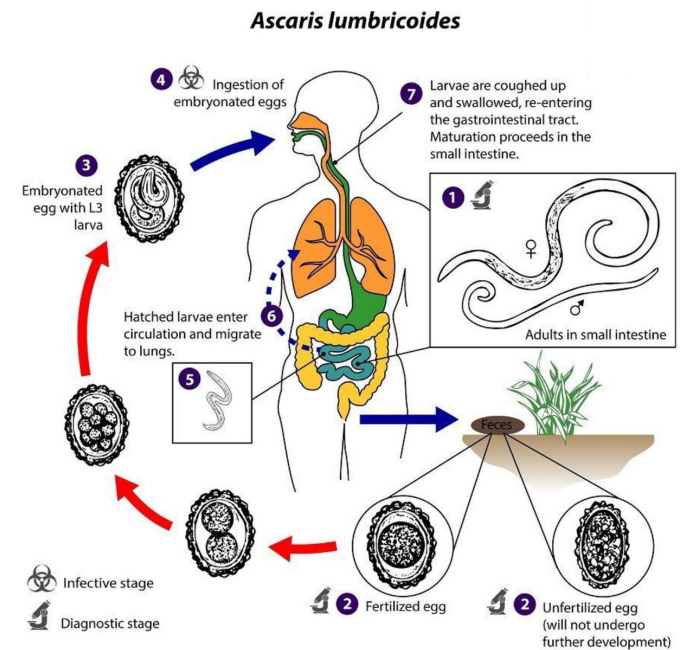
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## WHAT IS ASCARIASIS ?

*Ascaris lumbricoides* is the largest intestinal nematode parasitizing the human intestine. (adult female:20-35 cm and adult male:15-30 cm) It is the most common human helminthic infection, highest prevalence in tropical & subtropical regions and areas with inadequate sanitation.



## TRANSMISSION

- Ingestion of mature eggs containing 2nd stage rhabditiform larvae contaminating food, water or hands.
- Houseflies carrying larvated eggs to food.
- Inhalation of mature eggs to the nasopharynx.

## SYMPTOMS

Although heavy infections in children may cause stunted growth via malnutrition, adult worms usually cause no acute symptoms.

High worm burdens may cause abdominal pain and intestinal obstruction and potentially perforation in very high intensity infections.

Migrating adult worms may cause symptomatic occlusion of the biliary tract, appendicitis, or nasopharyngeal expulsion, particularly in infections involving a single female worm

## DIAGNOSIS

- Microscopic identification of the eggs in the stool > wavy wall
- Macroscopically adult worm are occasionally passed in stool or through mouth or nose



## TREATMENT

The drug of choice is albendazole, pyrantel pamoate and mebendazole .

Surgical for treatment of complications e.g intestinal obstruction, obstruction of appendix or bile ducts .

## PREVENTION

- Mass treatment of infected persons.
- Sanitary disposal of excreta.
- Health education.
- Proper washing of green raw vegetables and hands before meals.