Research of the month
September 2013
Clinical Research
Faculty of Medicine Siriraj Hospital
Authors

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Piyaporn Apisarnthanarak
Department: DiagRadiology
Field interesting: DiagRadiology
Contribution: First author

Assist. Prof. Dr. Kosol Roongruanchai
Department: Parasitology
Field interesting: Protozoa
Contribution: Co-author

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Phunchai Charatcharoenwitthaya
Department: Medicine
Field interesting: GI Disease
Contribution: Co-author

Dr. Wannwarang Teerasamit
Department: Radiology
Field interesting: Body imaging
Contribution: Co-author

Dr. Ananya Pongpaibul
Department: Pathology
Field interesting: Liver/GI Pathology
Contribution: Co-author
Four Thai patients with chronic diarrhea, malabsorption, and weight loss. Diagnosis: Capillariasis associated with tubular narrowing of multiple small-bowel loops with fold effacement.

A 42-year-old Thai man presented:
- chronic hepatitis B
- virus infection
- 3 months of chronic diarrhea
- Progressive abdominal distention
- generalized edema
- muscle wasting
- total protein 4.9 mg/dL, albumin 2.0 mg/dL, globulin 2.9 mg/dL, and potassium 2.9 mmol/L
- SBFT findings were abnormal

A 37-year-old Thai man with:
- no underlying disease presented with 5 years of chronic diarrhea.
- Over the past 2 years, he reported progressive generalized edema and 28-kg weight loss.
- Laboratory findings included total protein 3.6 mg/dL, albumin 1.2 mg/dL, globulin 2.4 mg/dL, and potassium 3.1 mmol/L
- SBFT findings were abnormal

A 48-year-old Thai man with:
- no underlying disease presented with 4 years of chronic diarrhea.
- Two months prior to presentation, he began to experience muscle wasting, generalized edema, fatigue, and 10-kg weight loss.
- Laboratory abnormalities included total protein 4.9 mg/dL, albumin 2.0 mg/dL, globulin 2.9 mg/dL, and potassium 2.9 mmol/L
- SBFT findings were abnormal

A 53-year-old Thai woman with:
- no underlying disease presented with a 4-month history of chronic diarrhea, generalized edema, and 5-kg weight loss.
- Laboratory abnormalities included total protein 3.4 mg/dL, albumin 1.4 mg/dL, globulin 2.0 mg/dL, and potassium 3.1 mmol/L
- SBFT findings were abnormal

Figure 1. Images from the small-bowel follow-through studies of 4 patients with chronic diarrhea, malabsorption, and weight loss.
Four Thai patients with chronic diarrhea, malabsorption, and weight loss. Diagnosis: Capillariasis associated with tubular narrowing of multiple small-bowel loops with fold effacement.

All 4 patients underwent small-bowel biopsy and all had similar histopathologic findings.

Figure 2. Hematoxylin and eosin stain of the jejunal mucosal biopsy (×100 magnification)