

Respiratory failure associated with ascariasis in a patient with immunodeficiency: a case report

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In industrialized countries, risk groups for parasitic diseases includes travelers, recent immigrants, and patients with immunodeficiency following: chemotherapy, radiotherapy and AIDS. *Ascaris lumbricoides* (Linnaeus, 1758) (AL) is the most common soil-transmitted intestinal nematode affecting humans and causing significant medical problems, especially in developing countries.

A 66-year-old Polish male was admitted in December 2012 to the Department of Haematology in a fairly good general condition. On the basis of cytological, cytochemical, immunophenotypic and cytogenetic analysis of bone marrow the patient was diagnosed with acute myeloblastic leukemia. On the 7th day of hospitalization in the Department of Haematology patient was moved to the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) due to acute respiratory and circulatory failure. In March 2013, 3 months after the onset of respiratory failures, a mature form of *Ascaris* spp. appeared in the patient's mouth. This case of respiratory failure in a patient with AML, probably induced by human *Ascaris* infestation, is rather rarely discussed. It should be noted that an exact diagnosis of the patient and a search for non-specific common etiological factors (including ascariasis) is required to achieve good outcomes, improve the patient's condition, while not excluding cases of patients with low immunity.

In conclusion, physicians should pay more attention to the possibility of this disease and reduce the risk of misdiagnosis in this regard.