

7th National Workshop on Strongyloidiasis

Towards a National Strongyloidiasis Control Program



CC Bennett Lecture Theatre
Fremantle Hospital & Health Services
FREMANTLE, WA

20 & 21 March 2012

BACKGROUND

Strongyloidiasis, a Neglected Tropical Disease, is caused by the parasitic nematode *Strongyloides stercoralis*. In case control studies at least 66% of people with chronic strongyloidiasis have significant morbidity. A smaller percentage develop severe disease associated with either acute infection or with unpredictable hyperinfection. The latter disease has a very high mortality rate and often presents as gram negative sepsis with the underlying cause not being diagnosed. Although considered a "souvenir you don't want to bring home" for travellers and returned servicemen, data collected from rural and remote Indigenous communities in Western Australia, Northern Territory, Queensland and New South Wales document hyperendemic prevalence rates greater than those from refugee camps.

AWARENESS & STRATEGIES

This Seventh National Workshop on Strongyloidiasis aims to raise awareness of strongyloidiasis for clinicians. It also seeks to review and build on successful current strategies including:

- hospital guidelines to prevent iatrogenic deaths from disseminated strongyloidiasis
- best practice guidelines in primary health care settings for diagnosis, treatment and follow up of chronic strongyloidiasis
- community programs to close the gap on strongyloidiasis in Indigenous communities
- screening and treatment programs for refugees and
- proposed public health approaches to reduce transmission

The aim is a coordinated National Strongyloidiasis Control Program.

AIMS OF THE WORKSHOP

To raise awareness and understanding of Strongyloidiasis in Australia,

- to share information
- to establish and extend networks (including international)
- to establish systems for monitoring and evaluation
- to improve outcomes for control of strongyloidiasis in remote communities
- to set directions for control of strongyloidiasis in Australia
- this is an interactive workshop with audience participation encouraged

GUEST SPEAKERS

The guest speakers include prominent researchers, clinicians and fieldworkers on strongyloidiasis in Australia and overseas.

http://www.jcu.edu.au/phtmrs/abc/JCUPRD_051368.html

1 ½ day PROGRAM TO INCLUDE

- *Strongyloides stercoralis*: understanding the challenges of this unique helminth
- Epidemiology of strongyloidiasis in Australia
- Update on diagnosis and treatment options
- National clinical guidelines and best practice for individual patients
- Control of *Strongyloides stercoralis* at the community level
- Towards a National Strongyloidiasis Control program - Where to from here?

CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS & POSTERS

Presentations or posters on strongyloidiasis are invited, particularly if they fall under the topics suggested above.

Abstract deadline: 31 January 2012

ORGANISERS

Prof Rick Speare (JCU), **Prof Miles Beaman** (Western Diagnostic Pathology), **Prof Lloyd Einsiedel** (Flinders University), **Dr Wendy Page** (Miwatj Health), **Dr Harsha Sheorey** (St Vincents Hospital Melbourne), **Dr Jenny Shield** (Latrobe University Bendigo).

REGISTRATION

Please **register online** by **29 February 2012**

<https://alumni.jcu.edu.au/sslpage.aspx?pid=649>

COST

\$ 150 – Full payment

\$ 75 – Concessional

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