

# WHO/FAO/OIE Guidelines for the surveillance, prevention and control of taeniosis/cysticercosis

**Editor:**

K.D. Murrell

**Associate Editors:**

P. Dorny

A. Flisser

S. Geerts

N.C. Kyvsgaard

D. McManus

T. Nash

Z. Pawlowski

- Etiology
- Taeniosis in humans
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- Epidemiology and geographical distribution
- Diagnosis and treatment in humans
- Detection in cattle and swine
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OIE, 12, rue de Prony, 75017 Paris, France

Tel.: 33-(0)1 44 15 18 88

Fax: 33-(0)1 42 67 09 87

<http://www.oie.int>

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## FOREWORD

Taeniosis and cysticercosis are two parasitic diseases that in the past have not always been recognized for their importance. However, it is becoming increasingly clear that greater priority should be given to these zoonoses because of their economic impact, particularly in resource-poor countries, and their public health burden. They are also now recognized as an increasing problem in some regions, such as Africa. The now accepted linkage between epilepsy and neurocysticercosis in countries endemic for *Taenia solium* is further impetus for allocating more effort to the control of taeniosis/cysticercosis.

As is the case for all zoonoses, the control of taeniosis/cysticercosis, requires a very close collaboration between both veterinary and medical public health services at a national level. It was with the aim of assisting those responsible for taeniosis/cysticercosis control and prevention that these Guidelines were prepared and jointly published by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE). This joint publication is another example of the three organizations working together to assist their member countries in designing, implementing and standardizing control strategies against zoonoses on both national and international levels. This is the result of years of effort by FAO, WHO and OIE to educate and to organize the surveillance and control of parasitic diseases world-wide.

This FAO/WHO/OIE Guidelines for the Surveillance, Prevention and Control of Taeniosis and Cysticercosis is a compilation of the knowledge and valuable expertise of a great many internationally recognized experts on these zoonoses, accumulated over more than a hundred years of research. Without this knowledge base, effective and proven recommendations for diagnosis, treatment, prevention and control would not be possible. We would like to express our profound gratitude to these experts for their contributions and for those able to share their knowledge and advice with the authors. It is our hope that this book achieves the success it deserves.

Carlos Eddi  
FAO  
Food and Agriculture Organization

Francois-Xavier Meslin  
WHO  
World Health Organization

Bernard Vallat  
OIE  
World Organisation for  
Animal Health



## AUTHORS

J.C. **Allan**, Pfizer Animal Health, Licensing and Business Development, Pfizer Ltd, Sandwich, United Kingdom, E-Mail: James\_Allan@Sandwich.Pfizer.Com.

Guillermina **Avila**, Departamento de Microbiología y Parasitología, Facultad de Medicina, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, México 04510 DF, México, E-Mail: Guilleavila2000@Yahoo.Com.

J. **Brandt**, Department of Animal Health, Prince Leopold Institute of Tropical Medicine, Nationalestraat 155, 2000 Antwerpen, Belgium, E-Mail: Jbrandt@Itg.Be.

Dolores **Correa**, Subdirección de Medicina Experimental, Instituto Nacional de Pediatría, Secretaría de Salud, México 04530 DF, México, E-Mail: mariadol@yahoo.com.

Oscar H. **Del Brutto**, Department of Neurological Sciences, Hospital-Clinica Kennedy, Guayaquil, Ecuador.

P. **Dorny**, Department of Animal Health, Prince Leopold Institute of Tropical Medicine, Nationalestraat 155, 2000 Antwerpen, Belgium, E-Mail: Pdorny@Itg.Be.

Ana **Flisser**, Departamento de Microbiología y Parasitología, Facultad de Medicina, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, México 04510 DF, México and Dirección de Investigación. Hospital General 'Dr Manuel Gea González', Secretaría de Salud, México 14000 DF, México. E-Mail: Flisser@Servidor.Unam.Mx.

Hector H. **Garcia**, Cysticercosis Unit, Instituto Nacional de Ciencias Neurológicas, Departments of Microbiology and Pathology, Universidad Peruana, Cayetano Heredia, Peru.

S. **Geerts**, Department of Animal Health, Prince Leopold Institute of Tropical Medicine, Nationalestraat 155, 2000 Antwerpen, Belgium, E-Mail: Sgeerts@Itg.Be.

A. **Ito**, Department of Parasitology, Asahikawa Medical College, Asahikawa, 078-8510, Japan. E-Mail: Akira Ito [Akiraito@Asahikawa-Med.Ac.Jp].

Niels C. **Kyvsgaard**, WHO/FAO Collaborating Center for Emerging Parasitic Zoonoses, Danish Center for Experimental Parasitology, Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University, 1870 Frederiksberg C, Denmark, E-Mail: Nck@Kvl.Dk.

Pablo **Maravilla**, Dirección de Investigación. Hospital General 'Dr Manuel Gea González', Secretaría de Salud, México 14000 DF, México. E-Mail: Maravillap@Yahoo.Com.

D. P. **McManus**, Molecular Parasitology Laboratory, Australian Centre for International and Tropical Health and Nutrition, The Queensland Institute of Medical Research and The University of Queensland, Brisbane, Queensland 4029, Australia, E-Mail: Donm@Qimr.Edu.Au.

H. **Meinardi**, retired Professor of epileptology Nijmegen University, The Netherlands; Past-President International Bureau for Epilepsy and International League Against Epilepsy, Netherlands, E-Mail: Meinardi@Wxs.Nl.

K.D. **Murrell**, Danish Centre for Experimental Parasitology, WHO/FAO Collaborating Centre for Emerging Parasitic Zoonoses, Institute of Veterinary Pathobiology, Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University, 1870 Frederiksberg, Denmark, E-Mail: Kdmurrell@Comcast.Net.

Theodore E. **Nash**, Laboratory of Parasitic Diseases, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland.

Z.S. **Pawłowski**, Clinic of Tropical and Parasitic Diseases, University of Medical Sciences, Ul.Przybyszewskiego 49, 60-355 POZNAN, Poland, E-Mail: Zpawlows@Am.Poznan.Pl.

Vedantam **Rajshekhar**, Department of Neurological Sciences, Christian Medical College and Hospital, Vellore, India.

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