CAPILLARIASIS

ANIMAL GROUP AFFECTED	TRANS-MISSION	CLINICAL SIGNS	FATAL DISEASE ?	TREATMENT	PREVENTION & CONTROL
All nonhuman primate genera	Perorally – ingestion of infected liver tissues or possibly infected ground beetles	Usually none, in severe infections /massive death of helminths occasionally sudden death	Rarely	Albendazole or Fenbendazole	*In houses* Rodent control *in zoos* Rodent control

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Susceptible animal groups All nonhuman primates can be infected, primary hosts : rodents (*Peromyscus maniculatus, Clethrionomys gapperi, Rattus norvegicus, R.rattus, Mus musculus).*	
Causative organism *Capillaria hepatica* (syn.: *Calodium hepatica)* in *Pan paniscus* also *C.brochieri.*	
Zoonotic potential Yes, > 30 human cases reported.	
Distribution Worldwide.	
Transmission Peroral uptake of 2-8 cell stage eggs trapped in liver tissues of rodents, transmission via ground beetles as vectors are possible.	
Incubation period 52 hs.	
Clinical symptoms In nonhuman primates usually none, occasionally sudden death.Capillariasis recorded in died mountain gorillas in Rwanda. In man abdominal pain and weight loss reported.	
Post mortem findings Focal hepatocyte necosis, cellular infiltration and fibrosis of migration tunnels in the liver tissues. In fatal cases hepatitis. Rarely intestinal capillariasis reported in nonhuman primates.	
Diagnosis Histological demonstration of adult helminths or of bioperculate eggs in the liver (percutaneous needle biopsy) or occasionally intestinal tissues. Serology: indirect immunofluorescence assays.	
Material required for laboratory analysis Liver/intestines	
Relevant diagnostic laboratories Local veterinary laboratories	
Treatment Fenbendazole (35 mg/kg for 3 days : cave: massive destruction of helminths in the liver may induce hepatitis. In intestinal capillariasis Albendazole 10 – 20 mg/kg/day recommended.	
Prevention and control in zoos Rodent control	
Suggested disinfectant for housing facilities	
Notification	
Guarantees required under EU Legislation	
Guarantees required by EAZA Zoos	

Measures required under the Animal Disease Surveillance Plan
Measures required for introducing animals from non-approved sources
Measures to be taken in case of disease outbreak or positive laboratory findings
Conditions for restoring disease-free status after an outbreak
Experts who may be consulted

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