Environmental Parasitology

1. Staffs and Students (April, 2010)

Professor Nobuo Ohta
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Takenori Seki, Toshie Taniguchi,
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Toshihiro Tokiwa, Yuki Miyazawa,
Katarina Macuhova, Katsumi Maezawa
Graduate Student (Master) Ichibon Fukuda, Kumiko Sekiguchi

2. Purpose of Education

Because of the recent development and the global changes in social system and life style, parasitic infections are becoming more heterogeneous. When we consider about factors promoting spreading parasitic diseases, multidisciplinary approaches are needed: medical, zoological and sociological.

Our laboratory mainly deals with pathophysiology and epidemiology of parasitic infections. Immunology, molecular biology and clinic-pathology are approaches employed. Main subjects in our laboratory are schistosomiasis, zoonotic helminthiases, malaria and trypanosomiasis, all of which include laboratory and field investigations. In the schistosomiasis research, we focus on developing new diagnostic method by DNA detection in the sample, and uncovering immunopathogenesis of the typical hepatic inflammation. For zoonotic helminthiases, developments of diagnostic tools are urgent matters to be studied. Our laboratory is one of the reference stations for the diagnosis in Japan.

Since 2008, TMDU started collaboration project on research on infectious diseases at Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research. At the collaboration center at NMIMR, molecular approaches to discover new drug targets for African trypanosomiasis are underway.

3. Research Subjects

(1) Pathological Research on zoonotic parasitoses: Toxocariasis, Dilolilariasis
(2) Epidemiological survey of parasitic diseases: Toxocariasis, Angiostrongyloidiasis, Spirurine larva, Schistosomiasis
(4) Immunopathology of schistosomiasis: Regulation of egg-granuloma formation in schistosomiasis japonica.
(5) Drug development against parasitic infection: New drug candidates for schistosomiasis
(6) Regulation of gene expression in parasitic helminthes: RNAi and parasitism in schistosome parasites.
(7) Molecular and epidemiological research on parasitic infections in West African sub-region: Special

4. Clinical Services

Clinical services for the diagnosis of parasitic infections are our routine activities.

5. Publications

Original articles


Review Article
(Non)

Book
(Non)