

UNIVERSITY OF RUHUNA
FACULTY OF MEDICINE
Third Examination for Medical Degrees (Part I)
28th February 2023
PARASITOLOGY – Paper II
10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. (2 hours)



Q1

Index number

M	D	2	0						
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Answer all four questions
Illustrate your answers with labelled diagrams wherever necessary
Use only the space provided for answering

1.1 A 47-year-old man diagnosed with malaria in June 2015 presented in May 2016 with a five-day history of a febrile illness at Teaching Hospital Karapitiya. In June of 2015, after the patient spent twenty days in a Venezuelan jungle, he had hyperpyrexia and was taken to a local health clinic, where he was treated with an unknown regimen of antimalarial pills for fourteen days. After a brief period of resolution, the patient experienced his second clinical episode and was diagnosed by blood smear analysis as malaria. He was treated with a drug for three days and another for fourteen days as an inward patient. The current episode was investigated with a direct blood smear and rapid diagnostic test (RDT). Schizonts of a malaria parasite were detected in the blood film. Pan-specific line and the control line appeared in the RDT.

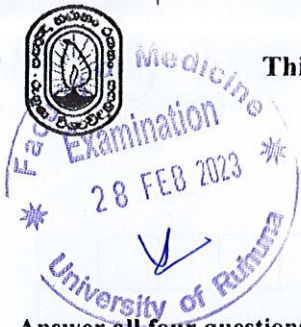
1.1.1. State the possible parasite detected in the patient mentioned in 1.1 **(05 marks)**

1.1.2. List **two (2)** drugs and their doses used in the patient mentioned in 1.1 **(10 marks)**

Drug 1–
Dose –
Drug 2–
Dose –

1.1.3. List **two (2)** reasons why the patient mentioned in 1.1 did not respond to said treatments **(10 marks)**

1.1.4. List **three (3)** types of resistance seen in malaria **(10 marks)**



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Q2

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Answer **all four** questions
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2.1 A 45-year-old female from Dikwella developed pain and redness over the right ankle oedema after severe inguinal lymphadenopathy on the same side. A palpable vessel was detected over the medial aspect of the right lower limb. Circulatory filarial antigen (CFA) test was negative.

2.1.1 State the most possible filarial worm which could cause this pathology. Give a reason. (10 marks)

Parasite –
Reason –

2.1.2 List two (2) reasons for inguinal lymphadenopathy. (10 marks)

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2.1.3 List four (4) morbidities explained in the above case scenario. (10 marks)

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2.5. Describe the management of this patient. (20 marks)

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2.2 A 5-year-old child from Habaraduwa developed pain and redness over a right cheek nodule. A palpable subcutaneous nodule was examined with ultrasonography showed a parasitic granuloma with live worm inside. A ten-centimeter-long worm was extracted by a surgery.

2.2.1 What is the possible parasite found in this child? **(05 marks)**

2.2.2 State a reservoir host the parasite mentioned in 2.2.1. **(05 marks)**

2.2.3 List **three (3)** vectors responsible of transmitting the parasite mentioned in 2.2.1. **(10 marks)**

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3.1 A 54-year-old sex worker presented to a national hospital with on and off fever, headache, myalgia, and watery diarrhoea. She takes her meals from outside as a habit. The direct faecal smear showed a field full of trophozoites with fallen leaf movement.

3.1.1 State the most probable parasite which can cause the above presentation. (05 marks)

[Empty box for answer 3.1.1]

3.1.2 Briefly explain how and why she contracted the parasite mentioned in 3.1.1. (20 marks)

[Large dashed-line box for answer 3.1.2]



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3.1.3 Describe how the direct smearing was done for the parasitological diagnosis.

(20 marks)

A large rectangular box with horizontal dashed lines, intended for the student's answer to the question.



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3.2.2 List two (2) snakes whose envenomation could show the clinical picture mentioned in 3.2. (10 marks)

3.2.3 State one (1) toxin produced by each snake mentioned in 3.2.2. (10 marks)

3.2.4 State how those toxins create muscle weakness in the patient. (10 marks)

Snake 1 -
Snake 2 -



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Answer all four questions
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4.1. A 45-year-old farmer from Padaviya presented with intermittent fever, fatigue, weight loss and progressive abdominal distension over two years. On examination, he was found to have a distended abdomen with marked hepato-splenomegaly. Investigations revealed low white cell counts, a haemoglobin level of 6 g/dl and a positive rK39 antibody test.

4.1.1. What is the most likely clinical diagnosis? (5 marks)

4.1.2. State the most probable causative agent of the clinical diagnosis mentioned in 4.1.1. (5 marks)

4.1.3. Name two (2) other clinical forms which are caused by the parasite mentioned in 4.1.2 in Sri Lanka. (10 marks)

4.2.4. Name three (3) possible specimens and corresponding diagnostic tests used to arrive at a parasitological diagnosis (30 marks)

Specimen	Diagnostic test



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4.2. A 15-year-old girl from a slum area presented with blood and mucous diarrhoea.

4.2.1. List two (2) possible parasites which can cause blood and mucous diarrhoea in this boy. (10 marks)

4.2.2. Briefly describe the laboratory tests performed to arrive at a parasitological diagnosis. (30 marks)



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4.2.3. List the drugs used for the parasites you mentioned under 4.2.1.

(10 marks)