ANGIOSTRONGYLOSIS

ANIMAL GROUP AFFECTED	TRANS-MISSION	CLINICAL SIGNS	FATAL DISEASE ?	TREATMENT	PREVENTION & CONTROL
Mainly New World monkeys (naturally in rats !)	Perorally via mollusc vectors	Lethargy, Ataxia, incoordination, tumorlike masses, death	Yes	Mebendazole (Cave: anaphylactic shock!)	*In houses* *in zoos* Physical removal of infected slugs, snails, crabs etc.

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Susceptible animal groups Callitrichidae, Cebidae, 1 x *Hylobates lar, Lemur variegatus, Miopithecus talapoin,* rats, man.	
Causative organism *Angiostrongylus costaricensis, A.cantonensis*.	
Zoonotic potential Only indirectly through slugs.	
Distribution Central- and South America, South East Asia,China,Hawaii, (Africa, Europa ?).	
Transmission Perorally via uptake of larvae-containing slugs (*Vaginulus plebius)* or fresh-water snails (*Achatina* sp , A. fulica). *Pamacea canaliculata)*. *A. cantonensis* also through freshwater prawns, land crabs, frogs etc.	
Incubation period Prepatent period : 4 weeks.	
Clinical symptoms Lethargy, ataxia, palpable abdominal masses, incoordination in walking, death. In man: headache, stiffness, vomiting, myalgia (cranial nerve palsies III, IV, VI, VII)	
Post mortem findings *A. costaricensis:* mesenteric tumor-like,larvae containing granulomas, otherwise congested lungs, eosinophilic meningoencephalitis.	
Diagnosis Necropsy, serology (IF or EIA), CSF leocytosis	
Material required for laboratory analysis Altered tissues.	
Relevant diagnostic laboratories Local parasitological /pathological laboratories.	
Treatment Repeatedly Mebendazole (5 mg/kg). Cave : The death of migrating larvae after anthelminthic treatment may increase inflammatory and anaphylactic responses .	
Prevention and control in zoos Physical removal of slugs and snails from animal and public contact.	
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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