Cysticercosis in returning traveler, a rare problem but really existed

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To the editor,

Sir, the tropical infection among returning traveler is the present focus in tropical medicine and traveler medicine. The problem is usually due to the improved transportation and globalization at present. There are many reports on the tropical infections in returning travelers. The common reported infections include dengue, malaria etc. Of interest, a rare reported infection but really existed is the cysticercosis. Indeed, cysticercosis is a tapeworm infection and it requires long term for tissue infiltration and longer term to be detected. Here, the authors tried searching on the international records on this problem, using PubMed Search, and can determine 9 reports on this topic[1-8]. In those 9 reports, only 9 patients returning from endemic areas, South (especially for India) and Southeast Asia are reported[1,2,4]. For all cases, the accidental findings of parasite are noted. The unexplained mass lesion is the main chief complaints. Of interest, there are only a few reports on this issue. There are many questions on the situation. First, due to the long natural history of infection, the exact site that the patient got the infection is usually hard to identify. Sometimes, the patients might travel to more than one country. In addition, it is not possible to clear cut the episode of having get infection[9]. The history of food intake is only the presumptive diagnosis. Second, since the cysticercosis can be silent infection, sometimes, it can be misdiagnosed as neoplasia[1]. Hence, it is no doubt for the under reporting situation. Nevertheless, it can hereby conclude that cysticercosis in returning traveler is an existed problem. As we see, many new reports emerge within the few years implying the worldwide consideration on this existed problem. Finally, it should be repeatedly mentioned that cysticercosis in returning traveler is a rare problem but really existed.

Conflict of interest statement

We declare that we have no conflict of interest.

References