

Acute Obstructive Pancreatitis Due to *Taenia saginata*: The First Report in Asia

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Taeniasis is a common tapeworm infestation in Thailand. The new subspecies of *Taenia saginata*, *T. saginata asiatica*, is endemic in Asia, and its infestation is usually asymptomatic or has mild gastrointestinal symptoms. We report here a case of a 27-year-old woman who presented with sudden severe epigastric pain radiated to the back in accompanying with vomiting. She did not smoke but drank occasionally. Physical examination revealed afebrile patient in acutely ill condition, and abdominal examination exhibited mild tenderness at epigastrium. Her blood levels of lipase and amylase were 3,056 (normal range: 60-180) and 1,011 (normal range: 0-160) units/L, respectively. A presumptive diagnosis was acute alcoholic pancreatitis, and the patient was received supportive and symptomatic

treatment. Few hours during observation, she vomited out a strobila of tapeworm-like parasite with 6 cm in length and 1 cm in diameter. After vomiting, her abdominal pain was resolved, and the pancreatic enzymes gradually decreased to the normal levels within a few days. The worm was finally identified as *T. saginata*. Stool exam revealed proglottids and eggs of *T. saginata*. After a thorough review of the patient's history, the patient and her husband had consumed raw beef 3-4 times a week for 5 years. The patient was then treated with praziquantel (600 mg) 2 tablets before discharge from the hospital. In conclusion, we report the first case of acute obstructive pancreatitis caused by *T. saginata* in Asia. In addition, we review all patients with acute pancreatitis due to *T. saginata* in the English literature.