

Publication

A blind passenger : a rare case of documented seroconversion in an; *Angiostrongylus cantonensis*; induced eosinophilic meningitis in a traveler visiting friends and relatives

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Eosinophilic meningitis (EOM) is a rare condition that is caused by various communicable and non-communicable factors. The rat-lungworm; *Angiostrongylus cantonensis*; , which is associated with consumption of raw or undercooked paratenic or intermediate hosts, is the most common cause of parasitic eosinophilic meningitis worldwide. While the majority of; *A. cantonensis*; cases are reported from endemic regions, cases in travelers pose a challenge to clinicians in non-endemic countries. Here we report a rare case of eosinophilic meningitis caused by; *A. cantonensis*; in a Swiss traveler who was diagnosed after returning from Thailand.; A 33-year old woman with a travel history to rural north-eastern Thailand presented to an emergency department in Switzerland with severe headache and vomiting. Eosinophilic meningitis was confirmed as the cause of the symptoms; however, serologic investigations failed to confirm an; *A. cantonensis*; infection on the first evaluation. Nevertheless, empirical treatment with an anthelmintic and steroid regimen led to a rapid alleviation of symptoms. Repeated serology confirmed seroconversion 2after treatment initiation.; Parasitic etiology must be considered in returning travelers who present with symptoms compatible with a central nervous system infection. A thorough medical history, including types of food consumed, is paramount and can often suggest differential diagnosis. Neuroangiostrongyliasis is rare and might be missed if serology does not cover possible seroconversion.

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