

RESEARCH NOTE

SENSITIVE DETECTION OF *PNEUMOCYSTIS JIROVECI* DNA IN GASTRIC WASH USING NESTED POLYMERASE CHAIN REACTION

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Abstract. One hundred and five samples of gastric washes were obtained from 52 pediatric patients. Eleven of the 105 samples (10%) gave positive results using immunofluorescence antibody test (IFA) for *Pneumocystis jirovecii*. Single-step polymerase chain reaction (PCR) produced 13 % (14 samples), whereas detection by nested PCR was increased to 65 samples (62%). Moderate agreement ($\kappa = 0.5$) was found between test results of IFA and single-step PCR, but no agreement was found between the results of IFA and nested PCR ($\kappa = 0.1$).

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