

RESEARCH NOTE

PREVALENCE AND RISK FACTORS FOR PINWORM INFECTION IN THE KINDERGARTEN OF THAMMASAT UNIVERSITY, THAILAND

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Abstract. We studied the prevalence and risk factors for pinworm infection in children attending the kindergarten of Thammasat University, Pathum Thani, Thailand, using the Scotch-tape technique. Slides were examined by a standard light microscope; 20% of negative slides were reexamined for quality control. Symptoms and risk factor data were collected using a structured questionnaire. Three hundred thirty children age 3 to 6 years old were sampled (males=159). Sixty-five (19.7%) had symptoms consistent with pinworm infection. No pinworm eggs were detected. Most parents (73%) had a good socioeconomic status and 64% were university graduates. Pinworm infection may be uncommon in urban Thailand.

Key words: pinworm, Scotch-tape technique, socioeconomic status

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