

Strongyloidiasis in the Gibbon

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OBJECTIVES: The study was initiated to:

1. Determine the susceptibility of gibbons to S. stercoralis from man.
2. Compare the natural disease with that produced by the human parasite.

DESCRIPTION: Previous studies have shown that strongyloidiasis is a major cause of death in the gibbon colony. Clinically and pathologically the disease in the gibbon is similar to that reported in man. The nematode responsible for the gibbon disease is morphologically similar to S. stercoralis in man. Its relationship to the human parasite, however, has not been determined.

PROGRESS: A study is presently under way to evaluate the above objectives.

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