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Clonorchis sinensis

Introduction

Clonorchis sinensis, also known as the Chinese liver fluke is a narrow elongate liver fluke found in the Far East. It parasitises the biliary duct in humans who become infected by eating raw or undercooked fish. Dogs and cats are the most important reservoir hosts.

Morphology of ova

The ova of *Clonorchis sinensis* contain fully developed miracidia and possess prominent opercular shoulders. They are bile stained and measure 29µm by 16µm.

Pathogenesis

Light infections are usually asymptomatic. Acute infections may be characterised by fever, diarrhoea, epigastric pain, enlargement and tenderness of liver and sometimes jaundice. The invasion by these worms in the gallbladder may cause cholecystitis.

Laboratory diagnosis

Definitive diagnosis is made by observing the characteristic ova in faeces or from duodenal aspirates or from the Entero-Test.



An ovum of *Clonorchis sinensis*