This study is undertaken to determine prevalence rate of gastrointestinal parasites among Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) positive cases. Stool sample from 100 HIV positive cases were collected. Stool samples was examined by wet saline and iodine preparations, Modified acid fast staining for observation of different gastrointestinal parasites. Out of 100 samples prevalence of prevalence of cryptosporidia was 12%, giardia was 3%, cyclospora was 2% and isospora was 5%. Multiple parasitic infection was seen in two patients. One patient was having cryptosporidia and cyclospora infection and another patient was having cyclospora and isospora infection. This study suggests infection of gastrointestinal tract with various parasites is highly prevalent among HIV positive person.
cal,16-33 x 10-19 µm in size) against a blue background. Field’s stain to demonstrate trophozoites of giardia examined under oil immersion lens.

If the number of cysts, eggs or larva is low in faeces, direct examination may not reveal them. Hence, the faeces is concentrated. Stool was concentrated when there was negative result on direct examination technique. It was concentrated by formal ether concentration technique.

**OBSERVATION & RESULTS**

A total of 100 samples of stool from HIV positive patients were examined for opportunistic gastrointestinal parasitic infection.

Samples were classified according to detection of various opportunistic parasites among male and female HIV positive patients.

Table: Gastrointestinal Parasite isolated in HIV positive patients

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parasite</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Female</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cryptosporidium</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>14.71%</td>
<td>02</td>
<td>06.25%</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Giardia</td>
<td>03</td>
<td>04.41%</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>00.00%</td>
<td>03</td>
<td>03%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyclospora</td>
<td>02</td>
<td>02.94%</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>00.00%</td>
<td>02</td>
<td>02%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isospora</td>
<td>02</td>
<td>02.94%</td>
<td>03</td>
<td>09.38%</td>
<td>05</td>
<td>05%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>05</td>
<td>15.63%</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Percentage of detection of opportunistic gastrointestinal parasites was higher in male i.e. 25% as compare to female i.e. 15.63%.

Among male patients various parasites detection of cryptosporidium was 14.71%, giardia 4.41%, cyclospora 2.94% and isospora was 2.94%. Among female patients various parasites detection of cryptosporidium was 6.25%, giardia 0%, cyclospora 0% and isospora was 9.38%.

Among all patients detection of cryptosporidia was 12%, giardia was 3%, cyclospora was 2% and isospora was 5%.

Multiple parasitic infection was seen in two patients. One patient was having cryptosporidia and cyclospora infection and another patient was having cyclospora and isospora infection.

**DISCUSSION**

Infections of the gastrointestinal tract are common in patients with AIDS. The impact of some relatively new spore/oocyst-forming intestinal protozoa, such as *Cryptosporidium*, *Isospora*, *Cyclospora* and *Microsporidia* on patients with AIDS is severe. Infections caused by these parasites cannot be differentiated clinically unless specific faecal examination is carried out.

Patients with some type of immunocompromised condition and those submitted to immunosuppressive therapy have an increased probability of acquiring parasitic infections, generally with a high degree of severity.

In present study, the prevalence of opportunistic gastrointestinal parasite shows 19% which is very near to the study of Arun Aggarwal study which shows 18% prevalence.

Prevalence of giardia trophozoite was 3% in present study which is comparable to study of John F. Lindo, K.N. Prasad and Mohammed Awole.

In 2% of cases there was multiple opportunistic parasite was found.

Study suggests opportunistic parasitic infection of gastrointestinal tract is highly prevalent among HIV positive person.

We believe our data could help health professionals to deal better with HIV infected patients. We also believe our data reinforces the need of prevention of opportunistic infection, which is one of the major cause of morbidity and mortality in HIV positive patients.

**REFERENCE**


Ingestion of infected food or water causes infection. The infection may not reveal them.

Hence, the faeces is concentrated.

*Infections cannot be differentiated clinically unless specific faecal examination is carried out.*