JOURNAL OF FOOD QUALITY & HAZARDS CONTROL
SHAHID SADOUGHI UNIVERSITY OF MEDICAL SCIENCES & HEALTH SERVICES

Journal of Food Quality and Hazards Control 4 (2017) 90

Letter to the Editor

Necessity of Molecular Differentiation of *Entamoeba* spp.

Dear Editor

In the recent issue of the Journal of Food Quality and Hazards Control (Volume 4, Number 2, 2017), the paper entitled "Parasitic Infections in Raw Vegetables of Kermanshah, Western Iran and Their Relation with Season and Washing Procedures" was published by Salavati, et al. The authors assessed the parasites in the raw vegetable sampled randomly from five different areas of Kermanshah district, Western Iran. They reported *Entamoeba histolytica/dispar* in unwashed, traditionally washed, and standard washed samples using microscopic analysis.

Based on our knowledge, *E. moshkovskii* (same as *E. dispar*) is considered as nonpathogenic *Entamoeba* with no morphologically difference with *E. histolytica*. The methods that could identify the mentioned species are specific-antigen and DNA analysis. The developed molecular tests include PCR based methods (Calegar et al., 2016; López-López et al., 2017). So, I recommend that the researchers should use molecular-based methods to differentiate these three *Entamoeba* spp. in the future related studies.

Dr. C. Fall
Unit of Medical Biology and Environment, Institut Pasteur, Dakar, Senegal
E-mail: cfall@pasteur.sn

References

Calegar D.A., Nunes B.C., Monteiro K.J., Santos J.P., Toma H.K., Gomes T.F., Lima M.M., Bóia M.N., Carvalho-Costa F.A. (2016). Frequency and molecular characterisation of *Entamoeba histolytica*, *Entamoeba dispar*, *Entamoeba moshkovskii*, and *Entamoeba hartmanni* in the context of water scarcity in Northeastern Brazil. *Memórias do Instituto Oswaldo Cruz*, 111: 114-119.

López-López P., Martínez-López M.C., Boldo-León X.M., Hernández-Díaz Y., González-Castro T.B., Tovilla-Zárate C.A., Luna-Arias J.P. (2017). Detection and differentiation of *Entamoeba histolytica* and *Entamoeba dispar* in clinical samples through PCR-denaturing gradient gel electrophoresis. *Brazilian Journal of Medical and Biological Research*. 50: e5997.

To cite: Fall C. (2017). Necessity of molecular differentiation of *Entamoeba* spp. *Journal of Food Quality and Hazards Control*. 4: 90.

Journal website: http://www.jfqhc.com