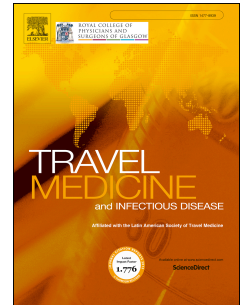


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Swelling of the right cheek in an Israel traveler returning from Columbia: A diagnostic challenge

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Swelling of the right cheek in an Israel traveler returning from Columbia: a diagnostic challenge

A healthy 28 year-old woman presented to our Clinic with swelling in her right cheek. Ten days previously, she had returned from a three-week trip to Colombia, during which she ingested ceviche and sushi. Upon her return from Colombia she noted swelling lateral to her right eye. The swelling migrated to the right cheek, and then the sub-mandibular region.

Examination revealed subcutaneous edema of the right cheek and sub-mandibular area. Three serpiginous red, linear lesions on the right cheek and sub-mandibular area were suggestive of "creeping eruption" (picture 1). The patient was afebrile, and had no other symptoms. Her hemogram revealed a leukocytosis of $14,000 / \text{mm}^3$ with hyper-eosinophilia of $4,800 / \text{mm}^3$ (34%). A skin biopsy revealed perivascular/interstitial dermatitis with numerous eosinophils (Picture 2).

Creeping eruption is usually due to hookworm larvae of dogs or cats. However, the marked sub cutaneous edema and the location on the face are uncommon in hook worm creeping eruption. The findings of migratory subcutaneous swelling and eosinophilia, with a history of consumption of raw fish, suggested a presumptive diagnosis of Gnathostomiasis. This diagnosis was confirmed by a specialized laboratory in Thailand (The Department of helminthology, faculty of

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