

NOTE ON ANKYLOSTOMIASIS IN NATAL.

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At the present time *Ankylostoma* infection in man and disability resulting therefrom has aroused much concern. The geographical origin and present distribution of the two species of *Ankylostoma* known to be parasitic to man are of considerable interest, even though it be only academic. It is, therefore, probable that the following note may be worthy of publication.

At the end of 1909 I received by courtesy of Dr Staunton, a Medical Officer in the service of the Indian Immigration Trust Board of Natal, 824 *Ankylostoma* worms, obtained from the faeces of 18 Indians after treatment. I found 132 of the species *Ankylostoma duodenale*, 51 males and 81 females, and 692 of the species *Uncinaria americana* or *Necator americanus*, 220 males and 472 females. In seven cases the latter only was found to the total 218.

The Indians had been resident in Natal, one for more than 10 years, one for six years, two for three years, and three for one year. In 11 cases both species were found, the duration of residence in Natal being seven years (one), four years (five), three years (three), two years (one), one year (one). The largest number of *Necator* found in any one case was 169 (with one *Ankylostoma duodenale*) and the smallest five (with 54 *A. duodenale*). The largest number of *A. duodenale* was 54, the host having been resident about one year, and the smallest number one.

I have not had opportunity of examining worms from Indians at time of arrival from India but from unpublished official reports of Mr B. A. Nicol, Medical Superintendent to the Indian Immigration Trust Board of Natal, it appears that Indians recruited in Madras Presidency are infested principally with *Necator americanus*.

Table showing species and sex of Ankylostoma worms discharged in faeces of each of 18 Indians.

Duration of Residence in years	<i>Necator americanus</i>		<i>Ankylostoma duodenale</i>		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Over 10	19	34	0	0	53
7	27	45	19	19	110
6	5	33	—	—	38
4	9	27	1	1	38
4	1	8	1	—	10
4	16	31	8	8	63
4	2	18	—	6	26
4	84	85	—	1	170
3	1	6	—	—	7
3	3	17	1	7	28
3	9	24	1	—	34
3	2	14	1	—	17
3	—	12	—	—	12
2	12	35	2	2	51
1	2	28	—	—	30
1	7	16	—	—	23
1	19	36	—	—	55
1	2	3	17	37	59
	220	472	51	81	824