**Detection of *Cryptosporidium parvum* from children with diarrhea**

**Abstract**

**Background:** Cryptosporidiosis is parasitic infection caused by *Cryptosporidium parvum* is now recognized as a human pathogen which can cause severe diarrheal illness in children especially.

**Objective:** To detect distribution of *Cryptospordium parvum* from children with diarrhea in Baqubah city, Diyala province.

**Patients and Methods**: This study was conducted in the Al Batool Teaching Hospital in Diyala city, from August 2016 to December 2016. The age range was between 2 months to 5 years.Stratified by age: <2 years and 2-5 years, these patients suffering from diarrhea with different gastrointestinal complaints were included in the present study. Stool samples were collected from each patients use for:Microscopic examination and ELISA test.

**Results:** Microscopy detected only 2 cases of *Cryptosporidium spp.* infection, while ELISA test detected 29 cases of *Cryptospordium parvum* infection, *C. parvum* infections in 20(33.33%) were males and 9 (22.50%) were female. While, the highest infection rates was 34.61% in 2-5 years age group with 27 cases. *C. parvum* infections was found in family composed of more than 10 person (36.84%), twenty two (44%) of patients their mother have illiterate or in complete primary school. Also the study showed that most child lived in rural region as showed that the highest *C. parvum* infections were found 7(28%). The data analysis showed that 25/68 patients were drinking tap water, the result showed that 3/12 child have been diagnosed for leukemia. Most the child feeding on artificial milk were infected with *C. parvum* 4**/**6

**Conclusion:** The results of the present study proved that children with diarrhea remains an important health concern. The *C. parvum* protozoan showed high frequency; Beside, the most potential risk factors are family size, mother education, source of drinking water and type of feeding who those less than 2 years, and the presence of another disease.