Dientamoebiasis – an emerging zoonosis

Date: 22 April 2016, Friday  
Time: 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm  
Venue: Conference Room 1, G/F, Block 1, To Yuen Building, City University of Hong Kong

Dientamoebiasis is a medical condition caused by infection with *Dientamoeba fragilis*, a single-cell parasite that infects the lower gastrointestinal tract resulting in diarrhoea. The usage of modern technology has led to the discovery that this parasite is a much more common cause of disease than previously suspected.

Transmission occurs through the oral-faecal route, however, the exact life cycle and the mechanism of transmission is unknown.

Professor John Ellis  
BSc (Hons) (Reading), D.Sc (Liverpool), PhD (Liverpool)

Professor John Ellis is an international expert in medical and veterinary protozoology. He completed a PhD on leishmaniasis in 1986, and subsequently did postdoctoral research on *Eimeria* vaccines and parasite phylogeny. He is a Professor of Molecular Biology at The University of Technology, Sydney.

Over the last two decades, Professor Ellis has continued to study parasitic protozoa of both veterinary and medical importance. His main research interests are focused on translational research that includes development of vaccines and diagnostics for protozoal diseases of economic importance, such as *Neospora caninum* and *Dientamoeba fragilis*. He was awarded a DSc by Liverpool University in 2006 for pioneering research on the biology of cyst-forming coccidia.

He has published over 170 peer-reviewed research papers and is the lead inventor on over 40 patent applications that has resulted from his research. Prof Ellis is an Editor for the journals Parasitology (Cambridge University Press) and Journal of Medical Microbiology (UK Society for General Microbiology).

“All are Welcome”

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