

# Immunodiagnosis of *Strongyloides stercoralis* infections in Chile using an ELISA test

## Immunodiagnóstico de las infecciones por *Strongyloides stercoralis* en Chile utilizando la prueba de ELISA

Mercado P, Rúben

Jercic L, María Isabel

Torres H, Patricio

Alcayaga U, Sergio

Martins De Paula, Fabiana

Costa-Cruz, Julia María

Ueta, Marlene T.

**Background:** *Strongyloides stercoralis* is a world wide distributed small intestinal nematode parasite. In immunocompetent individuals *S stercoralis* can produce asymptomatic infections or a moderate clinical picture of diarrhea, some cases become chronic. In immunocompromised patients, a disseminated-disease may appear, sometimes fatal. In Chile, there is little epidemiological information about *S stercoralis* infections and appropriate diagnostic techniques are usually not used. **Aim:** To evaluate the yield of an ELISA test for the diagnosis of strongyloidiasis in Chilean patients. **Material and methods:** Ten serum samples from patients with *S stercoralis* infections confirmed by a positive stool examination, 66 samples from individuals with other infections by tissue helminthes (24 toxocariasis, 15 trichinellosis, 11 hydatidosis, 12 fascioliasis and 4 cysticercosis), 13 samples from subjects with autoimmune diseases and 49 samples from apparently healthy individuals with a normal eosinophil