

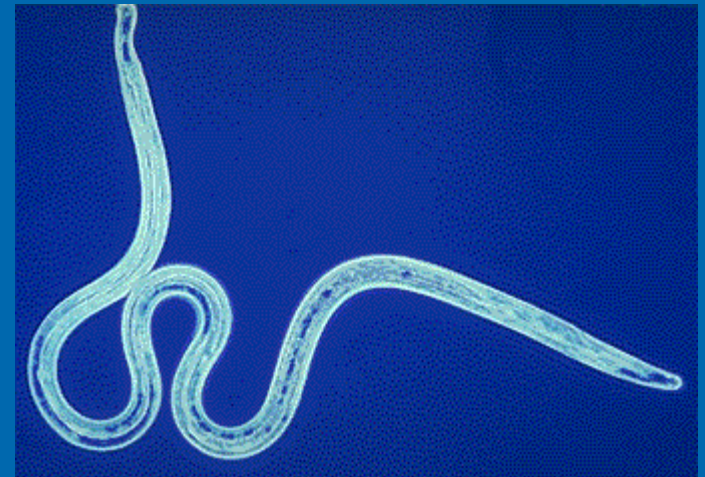
Presentation on

Lymphatic Paralysis

Lymphatic Filariasis: The Disease

.A parasitic disease caused by threadlike worms living in the human lymphatic system

- Transmitted by mosquitoes**
- Endemic in 83 countries**
- 1.2 billion at risk**
- More than 120 million people infected**



- More than 25 million men suffer from genital disease**
- More than 15 million people suffer from lymphoedema or elephantiasis of the leg**



Lymphatic Filariasis or “Elephantiasis”

- A major cause of permanent disability and disfigurement
- Adult worms damage the lymphatic system, causing fluid to collect and cause swelling
- Patients are physically incapacitated



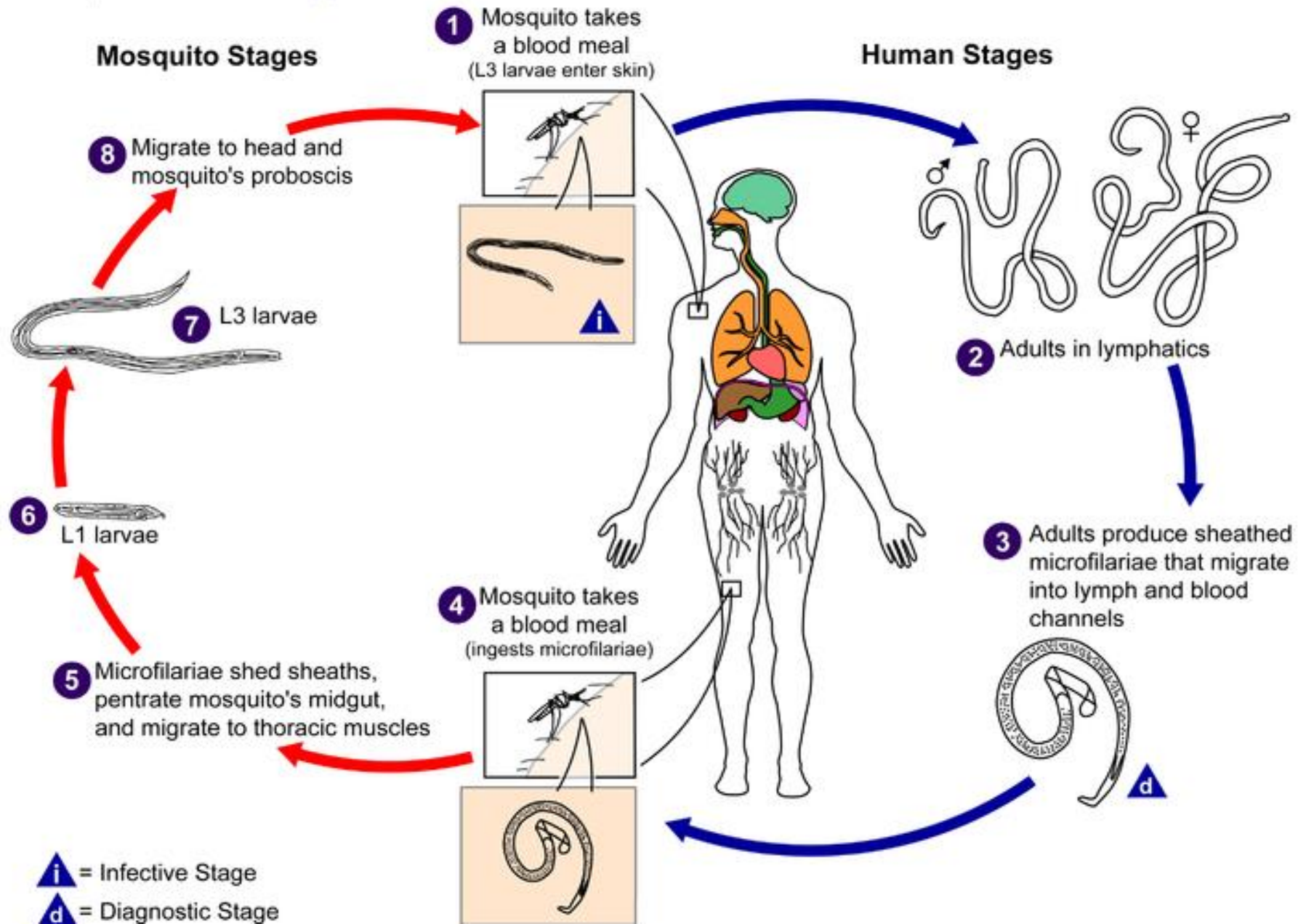
Mode of infection

- **By the biting of the blood sucking vector.**
- **The most common vectors for lymphatic filariasis are *Culex quinquefasciatus*, *Mansoni spp*, and *Anopheles barbirostris*.**



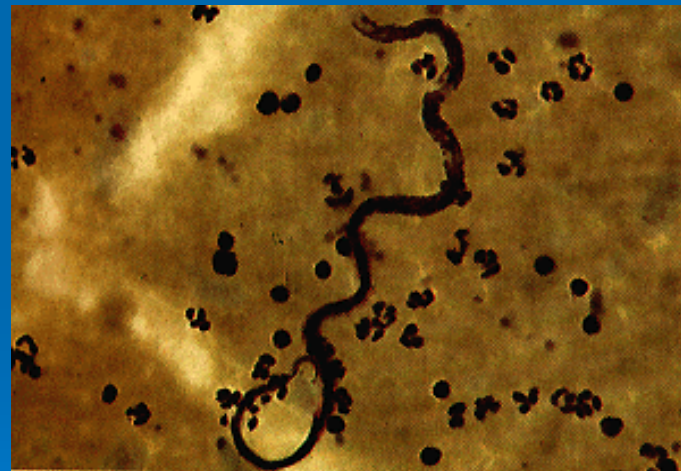
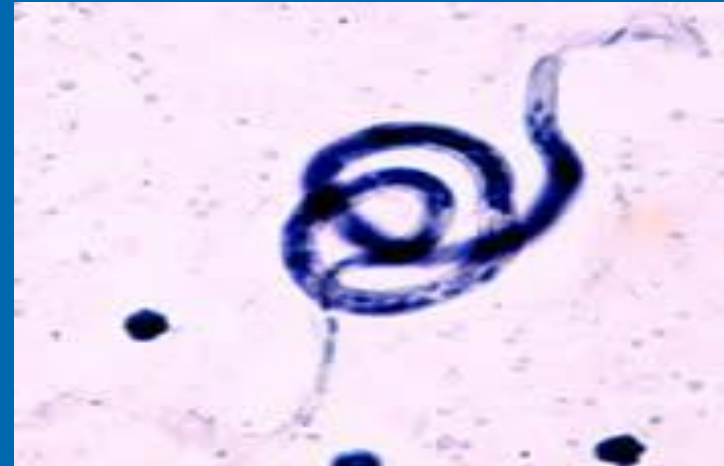
Filariasis

(*Wuchereria bancrofti*)



Diagnosis

- The standard method for diagnosing active infection is the identification of microfilariae in a blood smear by microscopic examination. The microfilariae that cause lymphatic filariasis circulate in the blood at night (called nocturnal periodicity).



Different types of microfilaria

Signs and symptoms

- The most spectacular symptom of lymphatic filariasis is elephantiasis—**edema** with thickening of the skin and underlying tissues—which was the first disease discovered to be transmitted by mosquito bites. Elephantiasis results when the parasites lodge in the lymphatic system.



Lymphatic Filariasis and Children

- Infection acquired in childhood
- Often with as many as 1/3 of children infected before age 5
- Because of the long latency period of the disease, visible symptoms usually appear in Puberty.



Prevention and control

- **Eradication of the vector mosquito.**
- **Detection and treatment of infected people.**
- **Personal cleanness.**



Treatment

Annual treatment of entire populations at risk with ;

- albendazole +Mectizan ® (ivermectin)
- albendazole + diethylcarbamazine (DEC)
- DEC-fortified salt
- Must be treated for at least 5 years

Total Number of People Treated (by year)

