

**PT: “Detection of *Echinococcus spp* worms
in the intestinal mucosa of definitive host”**

Instructions

At arrival in the lab, the check of the package content and its preservation has to be done and reported in the **Form 1** (MO/POPVI-05/04: *Check package**).

Before performing the test, the following remarks should be taken into account:

1. the samples have to be stored refrigerated at 4-15°C before the Sedimentation and Counting Technique (SCT) is performed, to prevent the damage of worms;
2. the test should be performed within 7 days after delivery to the lab;
3. to detect *Echinococcus spp.* worms in the mucosa samples, the method described below has to be applied (see also **Form 3** MO/POPVI-05/06: *Procedure**);
4. samples should be handled by the qualified personnel, following the safety procedures requested for infectious biological material, i.e. wearing individual protection devices (coat, mask and gloves);
5. test results should be submitted using **Form 4** - MO/POPVI-05/07: *Results**;
6. the due date to submit (by fax or e-mail) the results of samples analysis in the PT round, is indicated in the **PT Request Form** (MO/MAQ/03); **after this date, the test results will not be accepted.**

Protocol to be used for the analysis of mucosa samples:

1. transfer the whole sample into a glass bottle containing 1 L of saline solution (0.9% NaCl);
2. after a sedimentation time of 15-30 min, the supernatant is discharged and the bottle is refilled with saline solution;
3. repeat point 2, until the solution is sufficiently clear (usually 3 times);
4. the sediment is examined in small portions of 5-10 mL in a Petri dish (e.g. 10x10 cm) with a counting grid under a stereomicroscope (at 25 x).

For any information or problem related to the PT participation, please address to:

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**Note: all forms will be sent by e-mail to the participants on the same day of PT panel shipping*