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Title: (CAPITAL LETTERS) A SIMPLE SPOT-TEST FOR THE
DETECTION OF CIRCULATING ENTAMOEBIA HISTOLYTICA
ANTIGENS IN PATIENTS OF AMOEBIC LIVER ABSCESS

Name(s) of author(s), Institution, city, country: B.M. Gandhi, M.
Irshad, S.K. Acharya & B.N. Tandon, Department of
Gastroenterology, All India Institute of Medical
Sciences, New Delhi- 110 029, India.

Abstract The detection of amoebic antigen proteins have been found to be useful for specific diagnosis of amoebic liver abscess and to differentiate active disease from the past disease. A sensitive, rapid and convenient procedure for detection of E. histolytica proteins has been developed in our laboratories. Affinity purified antibody against axenically cultured amoebic antigen was used to precoat the strips of nitrocellulose membrane and as an enzyme carrier. The strips were incubated with test samples (concentrated with the help of a manifold) and the enzyme conjugate. A red spot was obtained by treatment with peroxidase substrate, 3 amino-9-ethylcarbazole, in positive samples. Blocking of positive test sera with excess antibodies completely inhibited the production of color reaction. The test was positive in 75% of patients with amoebic liver abscess (47), 12% of the 43 patients with viral hepatitis, Giardia lamblia infection and intestinal tuberculosis and in none of the 35 normal healthy controls. The test was simple, sensitive, specific and quick without a need for removal of the immune complexes.