ASCARIASIS (ROUNDWORMS)

Subjective

History of passage of adult worm, round and pinkish-white, often no symptoms
May have symptoms of:
- Abdominal pain
- Nausea and vomiting
- Anorexia
- Weight loss
- Pica
- Persistent cough, fever, blood tinged sputum
- Choking

Objective

Laboratory confirmation of roundworm infestation from stool specimen, OR visual observation of roundworm in stool or vomitus; There is no useful blood test.

Assessment

Ascariasis (Roundworms)

Plan

Pyrantel Pamoate, 11mg base/kg, once daily for 3 consecutive days.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Chewable Tablets (250mg Pyrantel base/chewable tablet)</th>
<th>Suspension (50mg Pyrantel base/ml)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25 to 37 lbs</td>
<td>11 to 16 kg</td>
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NOTE: DO NOT GIVE TO CHILDREN UNDER TWO YEARS OLD, PREGNANT OR POSSIBLY PREGNANT, OR BREAST-FEEDING WOMEN WITHOUT SPECIFIC AUTHORIZATION OF A PHYSICIAN
Family members submit specimen and treat as indicated

Health Teaching

Avoid contacting soil that may be contaminated
Sanitary disposal of diapers and feces; cleaning of toilet seat; attention to children’s play areas
Wash hands before eating, preparing food, and after elimination; keep nails short
Discourage eating food that has been dropped on the floor, or is unwashed from the garden; wash, peel or cook raw fruits and vegetables before eating.

Referral Indicators
No response to treatment
Children under two years of age
Pregnant or breast-feeding women
Pulmonary involvement
Abdominal pain

Follow-Up

Patient/parent will be asked to contact health provider if reoccurrence of symptoms after second treatment

Reference

CDC.gov; Ascarius Infection; September 2012.
UpToDate.com; Pyrantel Pamoate: pediatric drug information; September 2012.
Quartzpharmaceuticals.com; Pin-x-overview; September 2012.
ENTEROBIUS VERMICULARIS (PINWORMS)

Subjective
Rectal itching, especially at night
Heavy infestations may cause perianal pain and bleeding with defecation
White threadlike worms may be seen in bowel movements
Restlessness and irritability
Nightmares

Objective
Anal area shows evidence of scratching, may have perianal infection
Using clear tape collection method, ova may be seen microscopically
Laboratory confirmation of pinworm infestation from stool specimen
Visual observation of pinworm

Assessment
Enterobius Vermicularis (Pinworms) or Enterobiasis

Plan
Pyrantel Pamoate, 11 mg pyrantel base/kg, given as a single dose with a maximum of 1 gm/single dose.

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The entire family (immediate household members) should be treated, even if asymptomatic, to prevent reinfestation.

A second treatment should be given in 2 weeks to eliminate possible reinfection.

**Health Teaching**

Inform that reinfection and recurrence is common and will require retreatment
Sanitary disposal of feces; cleaning of toilet seat
Change bed linens and underwear of infected person daily
Wash soiled laundry in hot water
Wash hands before preparing food, eating, and after elimination; keep nails short
Discourage habits of nail biting and scratching bare anal area

**Referral Indicators:**

Secondary bacterial infection
No response to treatment
Children under 2 years of age
Pregnant or breast-feeding women

**Follow-Up:**

Patient/parent will be asked to contact health provider if reoccurrence of symptoms after second treatment

**Reference:**

cdc.gov; Enterobius Vericularis Infection – See Pinworm Infection
UpToDate.com; Pyrantel Pamoate: pediatric drug information; September 2012.
quartzpharmaceuticals.com; Pin-x-overview; September 2012.