Introduction
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Parasitism

parasitism means where one member is named a PARASITE, lives in oron another organism that is called a HOST.

Parasitology : is the study of parasites, their hosts, and the relationship between them.

Medical parasitology traditionally has included the study of three animals: parasitic protozoa, parasitic helminthes (worms), and those arthropods that directly cause disease or act as vectors of various pathogens.

SOME TERMS OF PARASITOLOGY:

- Ectoparasite: lives on surface of the host, appropriate terminology includes the terms "infected" and "infested" [i.e. ticks, lice, fleas].

- Endoparasite: lives within the host, appropriate terminology is "infected;" infested is inappropriate terminology [i.e. roundworms in gut, tapeworms in gut].

- Hyperparasite: parasite within a parasite [i.e. malaria in mosquitoes; tapeworm larvae in fleas].

- Vectors: transmits parasites from host to host, and this is divided into:
o Biological vector: essential in life-cycle of parasite.
o Mechanical vector: unessential in life-cycle of parasite phonetic.

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Types of Hosts:

- Definitive or Final Host : Host in which parasite reaches sexual maturity and reproduces.

- Intermediate Host: Some development in host, but does not reach sexual maturity, often asexual stages.

- Paratenic or Transport Host: No parasite development; but parasite continues to live and is infective to next host, for instance and pseudophyllidean tapeworm larvae in fish.

- Reservoir Host: Non-human animals that serve as sources of infection to humans.

Types of Life Cycle:

- Direct Life Cycle: Infective stage is reached in the environment.
- Indirect Life Cycle: Infective stage is reached in an intermediate host.