**Prevalence of intestinal parasite among food handlers in Kirkuk city, Iraq.**

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Absract:

Intestinal parasitic infection was carried out among food handlers from Iraqi and some foreign workers ( Bangladeshian ) ,whom they working as chefs and assistants in food preparation in 13 restaurants in the center of Kirkuk city. Stool samples were collected during 1st July to September 2013 from 150 (113 Iraqi workers and 37 as Bangladeshian ) . Double wet preparations of 0.9% of physiological solution, flotation method by zinc sulphate 33% and 1% of lugols, iodine in addition to fecal smears that stained with modified Ziehl-Neelsen technique were done for detecting intestinal parasitic infections.Over all percentage of infection was 55.48%, which divided in to 20.35% and 35.13% between Iraqi and Bangladeshian workers respectively. The common parasites include : *Enterobius vermicularis* 20.22% followed by *Giardia lamblia* 16.94% ,*Cryptospoidium* spp. 10.61% and *Entamoeba histolytica* 7.12% .Statistically significant difference was found between intestinal parasitic infection and nationality. Correlation between intestinal parasitic infection ( protozoan parasites ) and diarrhea was significant P<0.05 it was obvious that 65.22% of protozoan infections (*G*. *lamblia* 43.48% and *E*. *histolytica* 21.74% ) was recorded among 113 specimen of Iraqi workers in compare to 34.78% among 37 samples of Bangladeshians (17.39% , 13.04%, and 4.35% for Enterobiasis , Giardiasis and Amoebiasis) respectively .