Bilharziasis

Penis:

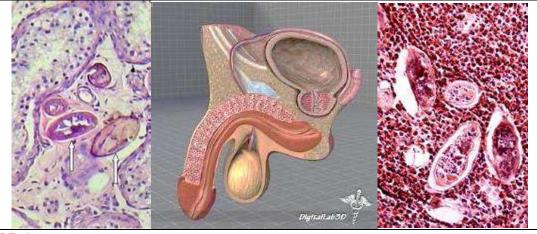
- Is swollen and thickened (in general)
- The swelling is marked in the glans and body whereas a groove (collar-like) appears at the site of scarring formed after circumcision
- The swelling is due to hard oedema
- Some evidence of scarring
- A fistulous opening appears just behind the glans
- A fistulous track lies at the ventral aspect of the anterior distal portion

Consistence:

• Hard in most parts; soft in few parts

Scrotum:

Is swollen and shows a false appearance of elephantiasis



N.B.1:

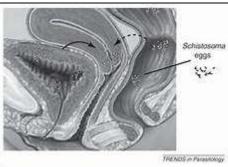
- In Bilharziasis of the penis
- The early and chief implication is in the glans and prepuce →a characteristic bulbous swelling of the distal end of the penis including the first part of the urethra → pitting or/and scarring of glans.
- The Bilharzial infiltration when marked → lymphatic obstruction → hard oedematous swelling.
- Later still, the body of the penis and even the perineum may be involved.
- The subcutaneous tissue of the penis and scrotum → swollen, oedematous and may **show many fistulae** (the oedema in the penis is solid and hard, whereas, that in the scrotum is rather soft and silky).
- It is the presence of urinary fistula which may offer a helpful evidence for the implication of the male genital organs with Bilharziasis including infiltration of the mucous membrane of the urethra and its neighborhood → fistulous tracks.

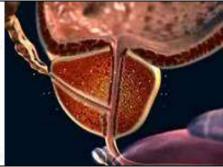


N.B.2:

Bilharziasis of the penis and penile urethra:

- This is usually an extension of vesical Bilharziasis and is common in young adults.
- The B. ova, and bilharziomata as well as the diffuse bilharzial granulation tissue are found in the submucosa → bilharzial tubercles, sandy patches and ulcers.





- Superimposed pyogenic infection of the ulcerating bilharzial lesion to an inflammatory process → extension to glans penis, scrotum or perineum (according to the site of the urethral bilharzial lesion) → urinary fistula.
- Features
- 1. At first:
- Oedema of penis (starting at glans).
- Oedema of scrotum.
- Sero-sanguineous (or muco-purulent) discharge related (or not related) to urination.

- 2. Later on:
- Fibrosis → narrowing of urethra (but not to the extent of a stricture except scarcely when very severe). (Fibrosis → obstruction of lymph vessels → bilharzial pseudo elephantiasis.
- Relative narrowing of the path of urine → straining (during micturition) in order to pass the urine (which is thin, turbid and is interrupted during the act).
- Fibrosis of cavernous tissue → impotence (partial or complete).
- In severe cases > induration --> bilharzial priapism.
- Bilharziasis of the male urethra is accompanied by relatively more complications (urinary obstruction, fistula and peri-urethral abscesses) because of the shortness (and wide caliber) of the female urethra.

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Genital manifestations of schistosomiasis

- Human schistosomiasis (bilharzia) is a parasitic disease prevalent in tropical
- Although the clinical manifestations on
- Urinary tract caused by
 - o **S. haematobium**) or
- Gastrointestinal tracts caused by
 - o S. mansoni,
 - o S. japonicum,
 - o S. mekongi,
 - o S. intercalatum and
 - o S. guineensis.
- Are widely known, many clinical health-care professionals are unaware of the genital manifestations which are often ignored or underestimated.
- Schistosoma haematobium is the main species causing genital manifestations but other species of schistosomiasis have been implicated.

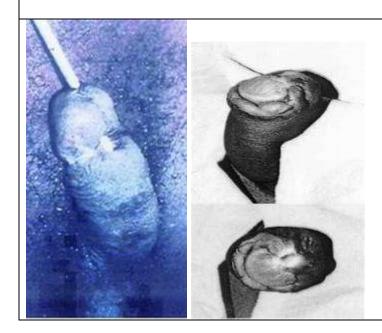
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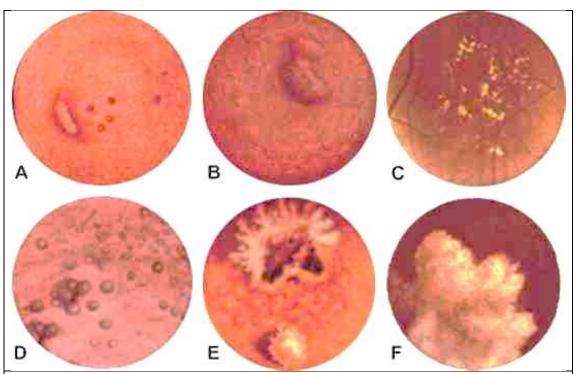
Clinical manifestations

The clinical manifestations of genital schistosomiasis occur both in women and in men.

- In men, the symptoms include

 Epididymitis (an inflammation of the epididymis at the back of the testicle) which can simulate tuberculosis and associated
 - Funiculitis,
 - Indolence and possible fistulation,
 - o Hemospermia,
 - Pain during urination
 - **Prostatitis** and
 - Others.





- <u>In women, the symptomatology is unspecific</u> because urogenital schistosomiasis can provoke gynecological ailments.
- The most frequently observed signs and symptoms are
- abdominal and pelvic pain presenting in forms such as
 - o Dyspareunia,
 - o Dysmenorrhea,
 - o Leucorrhoea,
 - Menstrual disorders,
 - Post-coital bleeding or simple contact bleeding (during an examination),
 - o Cervicitis,
 - Endometritis and
 - Salpingitis.
- The disease evolves most often in a chronic manner.
- These genital lesions can cause complications such as
 - o Early abortion,
 - o Ectopic pregnancy and
 - o Infertility.
- The clinical appearance of genital lesions is variable.
- Traditionally, the only specific lesions in women were considered to be granulomatous lesions the size of a pinhead and visible to the naked eye that looks like sand grains.
- They are rough to the touch and have a sandy consistency ("sandy patches").
- Several field studies and researchers have described other lesions such as
 - o Papilloma,
 - o Polyps and
 - o Neovascularization.