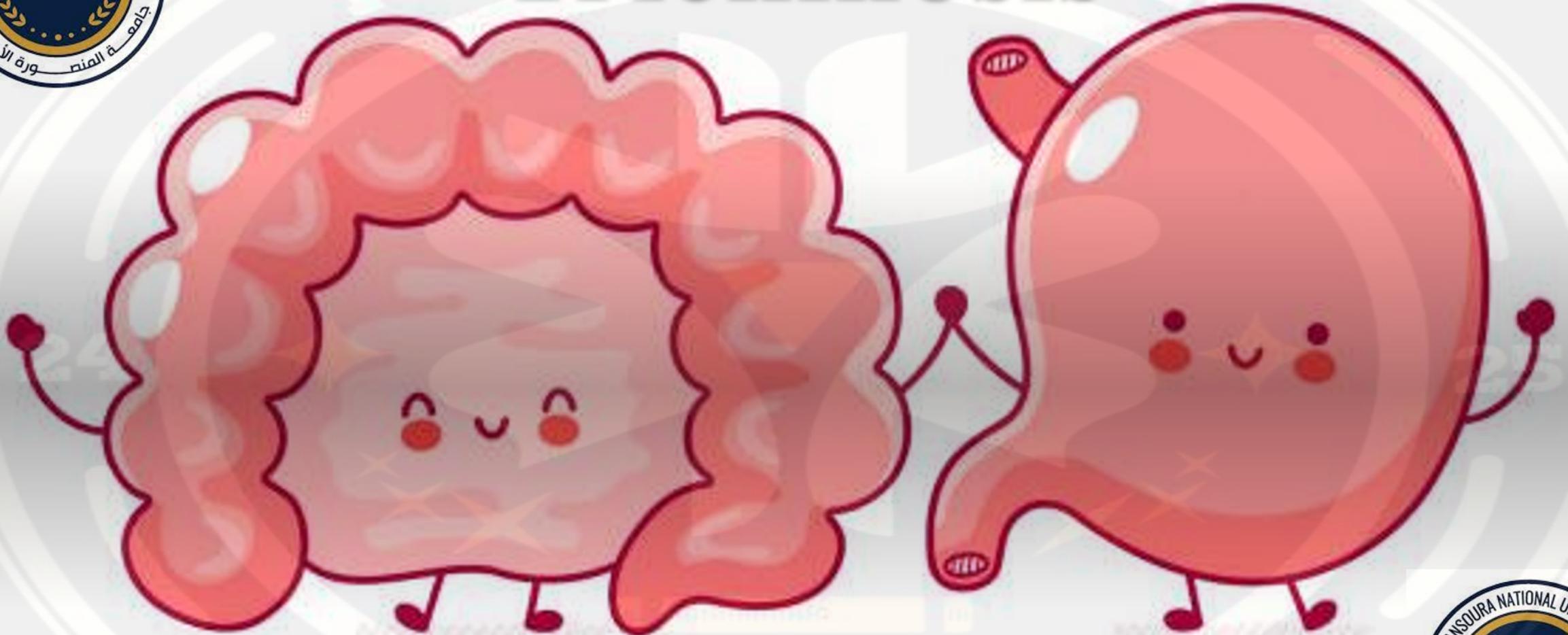




# Trichinosis

L2 sem2 MSS  
by /Rahaf AboZaid  
Publications - medbank.



Dr Ahmed Gomaa



# Trichinella spiralis



→ coiled larvae inside muscles.

→ Nematodes

→ rare in islamic countries.

Cosmopolitan. *global* → all worlds

Intestinal nematode.

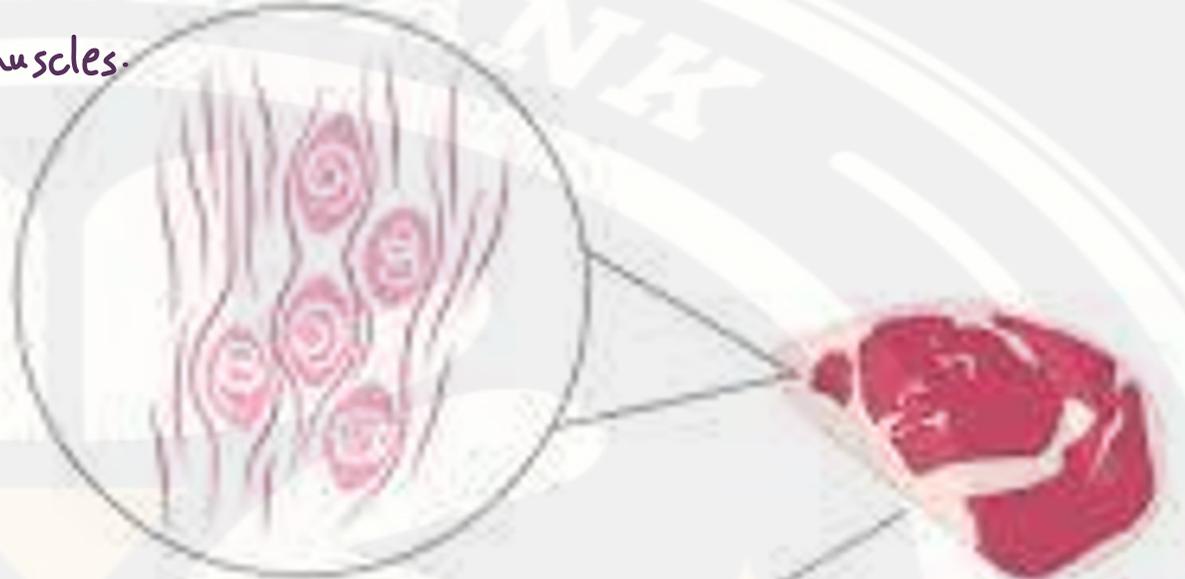
Tissue nematode.

*Definitive host, intermediate host.*

Man: DH, IH.

**Pork-borne**.

**Asmall** worm with **slender anterior end**.



25

# Morphology

Male: 1.5 mm x 40  $\mu$ , with ventrally  
curved Posterior end.

*smaller than female.*



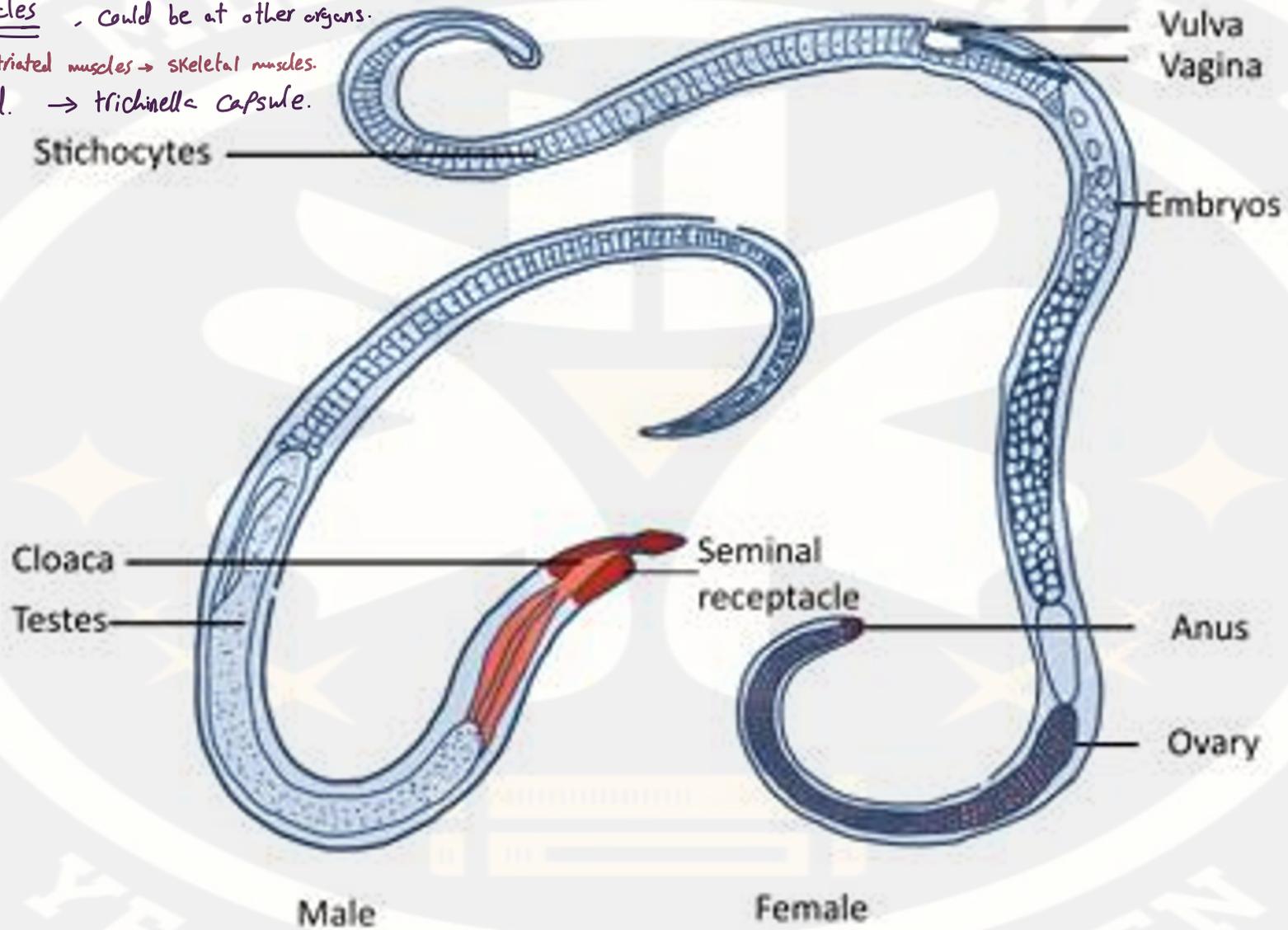
Female: 3 mm x 80  $\mu$ , with bluntly  
rounded posterior end, larvi-parous  
(viviparous).

*→ straight, flattened.*

*→ not eggs*

Larva: measures about 1 mm in  
length.

- ① → adult → small intestine
- ② → larvae → at blood stream.
- ③ → larvae → at muscles , could be at other organs.  
     ↳ active striated muscles → skeletal muscles.
- ④ → larvae capsulated. → trichinella capsule.



# Trichina capsule

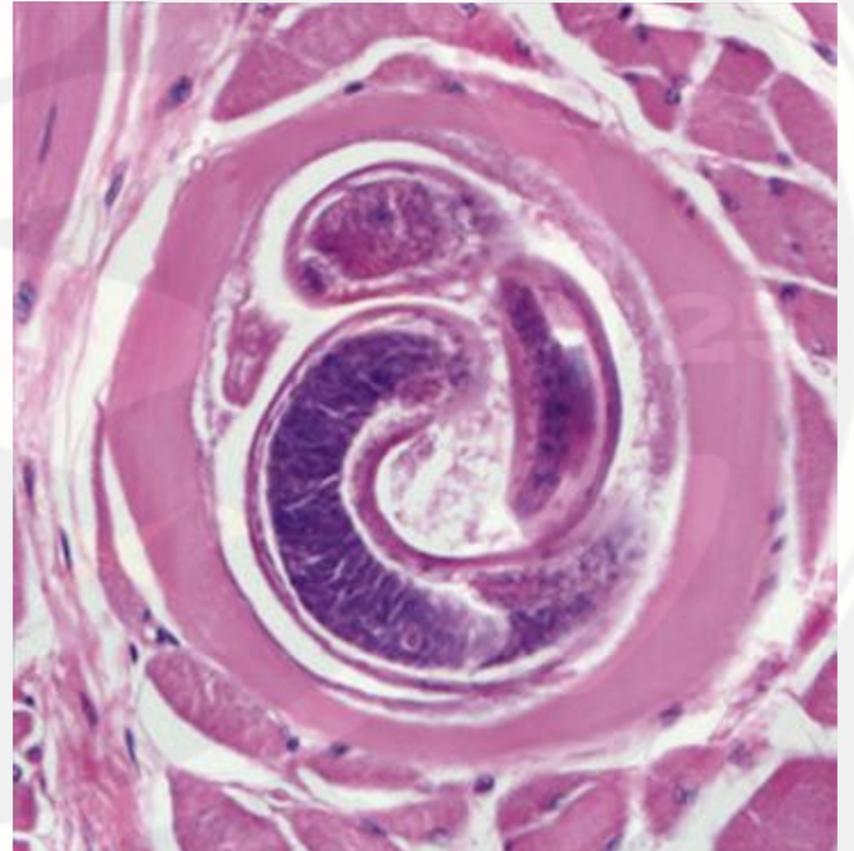
↳ Trichinella

□ The larval stage of Trichinella spiralis.

□ Common in the **striated active muscles** as *↳ skeletal muscles.*  
**diaphragm, intercostal, deltoid, laryngeal** and *↳ larynx*  
*muscles surround the eyes.*  
extra-ocular muscles.

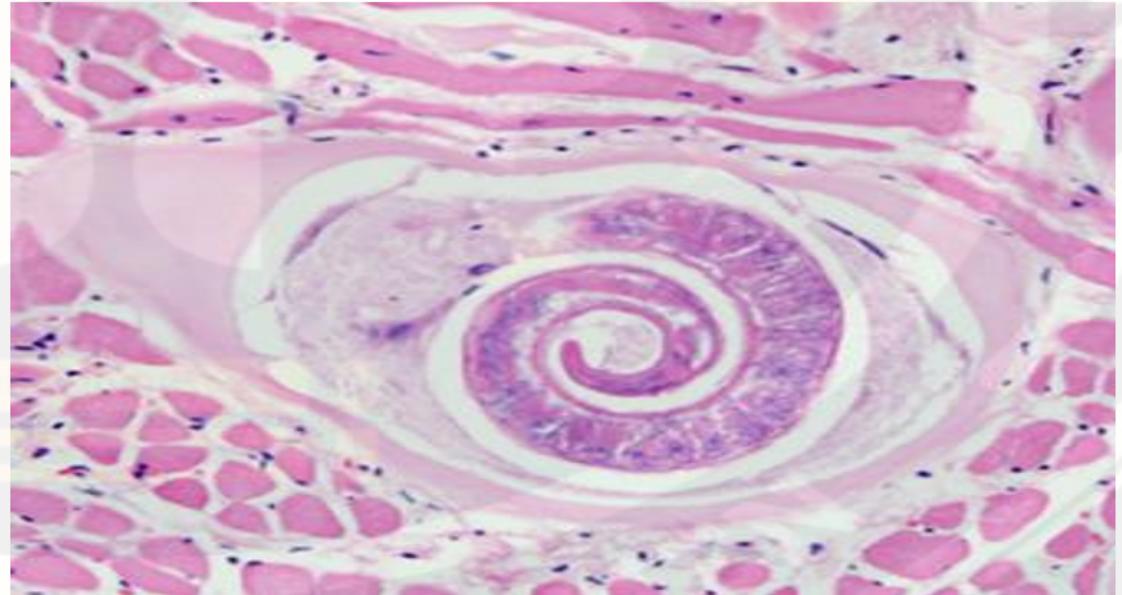
□ **Ellipsoidal** in shape, **0.5x0.2** mm in size of capsule  
*larva → 1 mm so should be coiled in the capsule.*

□ Contains a larva about **1 mm** in length **coiled**  
**upon itself.**



①  
❑ Becomes infective after 17 days from reaching the muscles.

② seen by x-ray  
❑ Becomes calcified within 18 months, but the larva inside  
③  
remains viable for years



# Life cycle

Habitat: small intestine of definitive and intermediate hosts.

rats  
pigs  
mans

→ sexual stage.

adult stage → male / female / larvae / trichinella capsule.

Definitive host and intermediate hosts: man, pigs, rodents, and other carnivorous mammals.

Reservoir hosts: rodents.

After fertilization  
males die and  
are expelled.

\* Diagnose by dead males at stools

intestine lining

by C.T

→ at stools

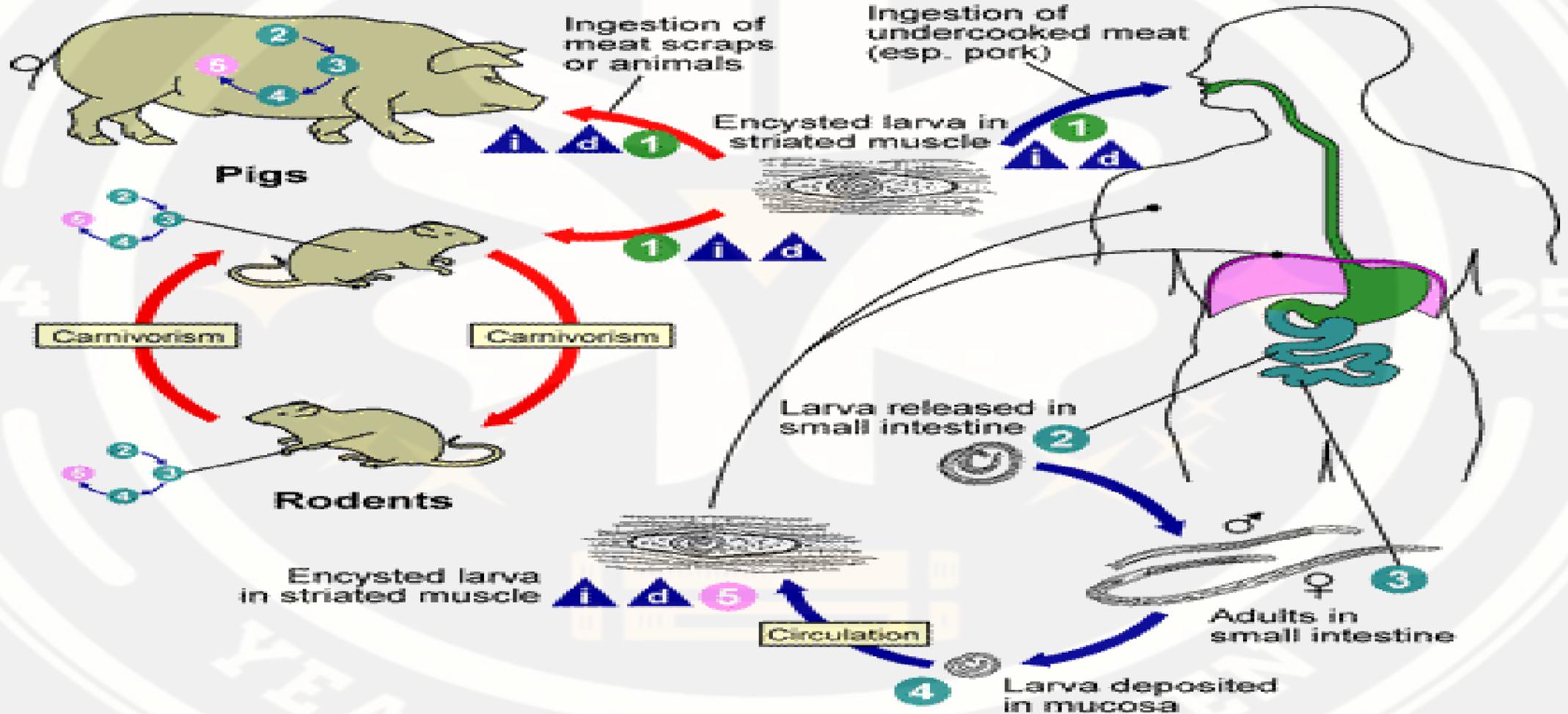
Females penetrate deeply in the  
mucosa and lay larvae (0.1 mm),  
which find their way to the  
circulation, through the  
pulmonary filter and distribute  
all over the body, particularly  
the active striated muscles  
where they encyst in the long  
axis of the muscles

muscles → 1 mm

**i** = Infective Stage  
**d** = Diagnostic Stage



<http://www.dpd.cdc.gov/dpdx>



Stages in life cycle: larva → trichina capsule → adult.

Infective stage: <sup>capsulated larva</sup> larva inside trichina capsule.

Diagnostic stage: larva, adult.

Diagnostic samples: stool, blood, muscle biopsy.

dead male

larva

capsulated larva

# Modes of infection



**Man** is infected by ingestion of raw or undercooked pork containing infective larvae.

*Trichinella capsule*



**Pigs** become infected by eating infected flesh from other pigs in garbage or ingestion of infected dead pigs and rats.

*rubbish*



**Rats** are infected by eating flesh of dead pigs or rats and by cannibalism

*→ big rats eat small rats*

# Pathogenesis, clinical picture

→ symptoms, signs

How the disease occurs

Three stages (intestinal invasion, migration, and penetration and encystment).

**Light** infections (less than 10 larvae/gm muscle) are usually asymptomatic. x

**Heavy** infections (from 50-100 larvae/gm muscle) may show the following manifestations:

# GIT phase (1st week)

Caused by Intestinal invasion by adult worms

## Clinical presentation

Symptoms resembling food poisoning; such as, nausea, vomiting, sweating, and colic.

+ Diarrhea

This period usually terminates with facial oedema and fever.

swelling  
inflammation

→ immune response  
because of interleukins

# Phase Trichinosis (2nd, 3rd week)

Caused by Larval deposition, migration encystation  
↳ blood ↳ at the tissues

## Clinical presentation It is tetrad of:

1. Muscle pain, weakness (myositis) active skeletal muscles, e.g. eye, mastication, respiratory.  
↳ fatigue. ↳ loss of functions.
2. Facial (peri-orbital) edema due to toxin vasculitis.  
↳ facial muscles ↳ diaphragm.
3. Eosinophilia 20-50%.  
• normal → 2 - 5 %
4. Fever.

# Final stage

Occurs when larvae complete encystations

Clinical presentation- All symptoms subside.- ↓ & healing

In severe cases, death occurs, due to <sup>→ muscles.</sup> myocarditis, encephalitis, or pneumonia <sup>→ brain</sup>

↗ inflammation to the lungs

# Diagnosis

Diagnostic stages

Clinical

history of the patient  
1st week.

Parasitological

- ① • Stool 1st w, larva and adult  
Small intestine
- ② • Blood 2nd w, larva
- ③ • Muscle biopsy After 2 w,  
larva T. Capsule

• **Clinical (during the 1st week):** trichinosis is suspected when gastrointestinal manifestations simulating food poisoning appear in a group of persons with a history of eating pork few days before.

• **Parasitological.** → diagnostic stages

- Stool → larva, adult
- blood → larva
- muscle biopsy → larva.

• **Intra-dermal test** (Bachman's test, after 2 weeks).

→ sensitivity test → at practical

• **Serological tests: ELISA, IFA**

Antigen - Antibody reactions

# Treatment

## Symptomatic:

- Bed rest. ✓
- General supportive treatment. *Drinks, Food*
- Sedatives.-Steroids. *← Cortizole anti inflammatory.*
- Fluids and electrolyte balance should be monitored

# Medical Treatment

Thiabendazole.

↳ Killed the parasite.

Mebendazole.

↳ Killed the parasite.

25

YEAR I - FRESHMEN

# Prevention and control

Thorough cooking of meat.

Regular meat inspection by means of trichinoscopy of pork.

Effective treatment of pork by means of refrigeration. *التكليس*

*التخلص من الفئران*  
Extermination of rodents from pig farms



THANK

YOU!

