Glutathione-s-transferase is an important antigen in the eel parasite Anguillicola crassus - DTU Orbit (09/11/2019)

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Different organs and secretions/excretions of the swimbladder parasite, Anguillicola crassus (Nematoda), were tested for the presence of antigens to the humoral immune response previously detected in the European eel, Anguilla anguilla. Proteins from different fractions of Anguillicola crassus were separated using SDS-PAGE (sodium-dodecyl-sulphate polyacrylamide-gel electrophoresis) under reducing conditions and electroblotted onto nitrocellulose membranes. Infected eels showed a specific antibody response to a 43 kDa antigen in the cuticle and towards two gonad antigens around 34 and 43 kDa. In protein released from the worms, two secretory/excretory antigens of approximately 28 kDa were found. The secretion/excretion rate of protein from the parasite to the surroundings was determined. Subsequently, an ELISA system was established applying these antigens as the first layer of coating. Furthermore, antigens from Anguillicola crassus were examined for the presence of glutathione-s-transferase (GST) using a specific antibody against GST. The antigens were found to be subunits of GST.

General information
Publication status: Published
Organisations: University of Copenhagen
Contributors: Nielsen, M. E., Buchmann, K.
Pages: 319-324
Publication date: 1997
Peer-reviewed: Yes

Publication information
Journal: Journal of Helminthology
Volume: 71
Issue number: 4
ISSN (Print): 0022-149X
Original language: English
DOIs:
10.1017/S0022149X00016138
Source: orbit
Source ID: 242135
Research output: Contribution to journal › Journal article – Annual report year: 1997 › Research › peer-review