## Research Note:

## **Multidrug-Resistant Canine Hookworms**

Hookworms are the most significant soil-transmitted nematodes in humans, causing debilitating iron-deficiency anemia, which can become fatal in children, pregnant women, and the elderly. This study identified a naturally occurring, multidrug-resistant strain of the canine hookworm *Ancylostoma caninum*, which harbors a fixed, single-base pair mutation at amino acid 167 of the  $\beta$ -tubulin isotype 1 gene; the isolate was resistant to fenbendazole. The mutation was introduced into the corresponding amino acid in the nematode *Caenorhabditis elegans* and was found to confer similar resistance to thiabendazole and ivermectin. This study highlights the importance of understanding mechanisms of resistance for the design of parasite-control strategies.

## **Source**

Kitchen S, Ratnappan R, Han S, et al. Isolation and characterization of a naturally occurring multidrug-resistant strain of the canine hookworm, *Ancylostoma caninum*. Int J Parasitol. 2019;49(5):397-406.



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