**Key points of Hookworm**

• *A*. *duodenale* is the old world hookworm and *N.\_americanus* is the new world hookworm.

• Adult worm live in small intestine (jejunum and duodenum).

• In *A. duodenale*, the anterior end is bent dorsally in the same direction of body curvature, hence the name hookworm.

The mouth contains 6 teeth; 4 hook-like teeth ventrally and 2 knob-like dorsally. Posterior end of male has a copulatory

bursa.

• Female is longer than male with tapering end.

• Eggs are oval, colorless, not bile-stained, and float in saturated salt solution and contain segmented ovum with 4 blastomeres.

• **Natural host:** Humans. Life cycle is completed in a single host.

• **Infective form:** Third-stage filariform larva.

• **Portal of entry:** Penetration of skin.

• **Clinical features:** Ground itch, creeping eruption (cutaneous larva migrans), bronchitis and broncho pneumonia in

lung, hypochromic microcytic or dimorphic anemia and intestinal symptoms like epigastic pain, dyspespsia, nausea,

and pica.

• **Diagnosis:** Done by demonstration of characteristic egg in the feces by direct microscopy or by concentration methods or by demonstration of adult worms in stool or duodenal aspirate.

• **Treatment:** Albendazole, mebendazole pyrantel palmoate. Oral iron in anemia.