

# SPONTANEOUS EMERGENCE OF A *GNATHOSTOMA SPINIGERUM* ADULT WORM FROM THE ABDOMINAL SKIN OF A LAOTIAN WOMAN: A CASE REPORT

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**Abstract.** Gnathostomiasis caused by infection with the Spirurine nematode, *Gnathostoma* species, is a common fish-borne parasitic zoonosis in Asia. We present here the case of the spontaneous emergence of an adult *Gnathostoma spinigerum* worm from the abdominal skin of a Laotian woman. We review the literature on gnathostomiasis and discover that infective *G. spinigerum* larvae can grow into immature and mature worms in humans more commonly than expected.

**Keywords:** *Gnathostoma spinigerum*, adult worm, skin lesion, spontaneous emergence

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