

CASE REPORT:

MYIASIS CAUSED BY *LUCILIA CUPRINA* IN AN ADULT PATIENT IN KELANTAN, MALAYSIA

Murnihayati Hassan¹, Liszen Tang^{2,3}, Azlinda Abu Bakar¹,
Zeti Norfidiyati Salmuna@Ayub^{1,2}, Tengku Nurfara'ain Qistina Tuan Kamarul
Baharin^{2,3}, Nazni Wasi Ahmad⁴ and Zakuan Zainy Deris^{1,2}

¹Department of Medical Microbiology and Parasitology, School of Medical Sciences, Universiti Sains Malaysia Health Campus, Kubang Kerian; ²Hospital Universiti Sains Malaysia (Hospital USM), Kubang Kerian; ³Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Unit, School of Dental Sciences, Health Campus, Universiti Sains Malaysia, Kubang Kerian Kota Bharu, Kelantan; ⁴Entomology Department, Institute for Medical Research, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Abstract. *Lucilia cuprina* is a rare cause of serious myiasis. We reported here a case of a 51-year old Malay male with an underlying history of stroke causing him to be bed ridden; he had a tracheostomy and a Ryle's feeding tube. His oral care had been neglected. His caregiver noted a foul oral odor and the presence of maggots on tracheostomy suction. On physical examination, the patient was febrile. On oral examination, he had periodontitis, multiple mobile teeth and oral myiasis. He was treated with removal of all 153 larvae, given intravenous cefuroxime and wound care. The larvae was identified as those of *Lucilia cuprina*. At follow-up three months post-operatively, the myiasis and periodontitis had resolved completely without residuals. *Lucilia cuprina* can cause severe myiasis in disabled patients but good hygiene and appropriate wound care can treat this condition.

Keywords: myiasis, *Lucilia cuprina*, blow flies, maggots

Correspondence: Dr Liszen Tang, Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery Unit, School of Dental Sciences, Health Campus, Universiti Sains Malaysia Kubang Kerian, 16150 Kota Bharu, Kelantan, Malaysia.

Tel: +60136475688; Fax: +609 767 5505

E-mail: drliszen@usm.my