



Correction for Mathison and Pritt, “Medical Parasitology Taxonomy Update, 2016–2017”

Blaine A. Mathison,^a Bobbi S. Pritt^b

^aParasitology and Fecal Testing Laboratory, ARUP Laboratories, Salt Lake City, Utah, USA

^bDivision of Clinical Microbiology, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota, USA

Volume 57, no. 2, e01067-18, 2019, <https://doi.org/10.1128/JCM.01067-18>.

In our article, *Neobalantidium* was proposed as a revised taxon to accommodate *Balantidium coli*. Since the publication of the article, we were made aware of the rediscovery of the genus *Balantioides*, which was described by Alexeieff in 1931 to accommodate *B. coli* (1). The following is a brief taxonomic history of the organism:

- Malmsten (1857) described *Paramecium coli* from two humans with dysentery (2).
- *Balantidium* was described by Claparède and Lachmann in 1858 (3), with the frog parasite *B. entozoon* as its type species.
- Stein (1863) transferred *P. coli* to *Balantidium* (4).
- Alexeieff (1931) described *Balantioides* to accommodate *B. coli* (1). Unfortunately, this name went unnoticed in much of the medical literature for decades.
- Pomajbíková et al. (2013) described *Neobalantidium* to accommodate *B. coli* (5).
- Chistyakova et al. (2014) brought awareness to Alexeieff’s description of *Balantioides* (6).
- Jirků-Pomajbíková and Stensvold (2018) reevaluated Pomajbíková et al.’s earlier (2013) work and acknowledged that *Balantioides* has priority over *Neobalantidium* (7).

In summary, the proper taxonomic assignment for this agent is *Balantioides coli*, and the disease should be referred to as balantiosis.

Citation Mathison BA, Pritt BS. 2020. Correction for Mathison and Pritt, “Medical parasitology taxonomy update, 2016–2017.” *J Clin Microbiol* 58:e00822–20. <https://doi.org/10.1128/JCM.00822-20>.

Copyright © 2020 American Society for Microbiology. All Rights Reserved.

Address correspondence to Bobbi S. Pritt, pritt.bobbi@mayo.edu.

Published

REFERENCES

1. Alexeieff A. 1931. Sur quelques particularités de structure de *Balantioides* (nom. nov.) *coli* (Malmsten). *C R Seances Soc Biol Fil* 107:210–211.
2. Malmsten PH. 1857. Infusorien als intestinal-thiere beim Menschen. *Arch Pathol Anat Physiol Klin Med* 12:302–309. <https://doi.org/10.1007/BF01940147>.
3. Claparède E, Lachmann J. 1858. *Balantidium entozoon*, p 247–248. In *Études sur les infusoires et les rhizopodes*. Kossman, Geneva, Switzerland.
4. Stein F. 1863. Ueber *Paramecium coli* Malmsten. *Amtl Berl Dtsch Naturfors Artz* 37:165.
5. Pomajbíková KJ, Oborník M, Horák A, Petržeklová KJ, Norman Grim J, Levecke B, Todd A, Mulama M, Kiyang J, Modr D. 2013. Novel insights into the genetic diversity of *Balantidium* and *Balantidium*-like cyst-forming ciliates. *PLoS Negl Trop Dis* 7:32140. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pntd.0002140>.
6. Chistyakova LV, Kostygov AY, Kormilova OA, Yurchenko V. 2014. Reisolation and redescription of *Balantidium duoden* Stein, 1867 (Litostomatea, Trichostomata). *Parasitol Res* 113:4207–4215. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00436-014-4096-1>.
7. Jirků-Pomajbíková K, Stensvold CR. 2018. *Balantioides coli* (formerly *Balantidium coli*), p 1303.e1–1305.e1. In Long S, Prober C, Fischer M (ed), *Principles and practice of pediatric infectious diseases*, 5th ed. Elsevier, Amsterdam, Netherlands.

24 June 2020