

## Subconjunctival Dirofilariasis Caused by *D. repens*: a Case Report

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### Abstract

Dirofilariasis caused by *D. repens* is a natural-focal zoonosis. Dogs are the main dead-end host and reservoir of the parasite, and mosquitoes of the *Aedes*, *Anopheles* и *Culex* families are vectors. Humans are non-specific, accidental host and not a source of infection. Canine dirofilariasis is found in the southern and eastern parts of Europe. Isolated cases of human dirofilariasis in Bulgaria have been reported during the last decades. We report a case of subconjunctival localization of dirofilariasis. A lithe helminth of cylindrical shape, 14 cm in length was extracted from the subconjunctival space. The histological examination of the helminth revealed a cuticle with longitudinal ridges with transverse striations. The size of the parasite, the typical localization and the morphology of the tegument made us assume that the case described was one of ophthalmic dirofilariasis caused by *D. repens*.

Key words: *D. repens*, subconjunctival dirofilariasis





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