

RESEARCH PROTOCOL

Protocol No.: 2001—003

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RRC Approval: Yes/ No Date: _____

ERC Approval: Yes/No Date: _____

AEEC Approval: Yes/No Date: _____

Project Title: Evaluation of lactoferrin (Latex agglutination-Leuko-Test® and a new dip stick-Leuko-Stick®-Test) and modified guaiac-test (Colo-Rectal®-Test) as screening tests in the diagnosis and differentiation of inflammatory and non-inflammatory diarrhoea in patients with acute infectious diarrhoea.

Theme: (Check all that apply)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nutrition | <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Health |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Emerging and Re-emerging Infectious Diseases | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Population Dynamics | <input type="checkbox"/> Child Health |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reproductive Health | <input type="checkbox"/> Clinical Case Management |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vaccine evaluation | <input type="checkbox"/> Social and Behavioural Sciences |

Key words: Lactoferrin test, Screening test, Inflammatory diarrhoea

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- Co-Investigator(s):**
- Dr. Nur Haque Alam
 - Dr. P.K. Bardhan
 - Dr. S.A. Sarker
 - Dr. A.S.G. Faruque

Student Investigator/Intern: Nil

Collaborating Institute(s): University of Basel, Switzerland (Prof. Klaus Gyr)

Population: Inclusion of special groups (Check all that apply):

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gender | <input type="checkbox"/> Pregnant Women |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Male | <input type="checkbox"/> Fetuses |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Females | <input type="checkbox"/> Prisoners |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Age | <input type="checkbox"/> Destitutes |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 0 – 5 years | <input type="checkbox"/> Service providers |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5 – 9 years | <input type="checkbox"/> Cognitively Impaired |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10 – 19 years | <input type="checkbox"/> CSW |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20 + | <input type="checkbox"/> Others (specify _____) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> > 65 | <input type="checkbox"/> Animal |

Project / study Site (Check all the apply):

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dhaka Hospital | <input type="checkbox"/> Mirsarai |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Matlab Hospital | <input type="checkbox"/> Patyia |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Matlab DSS area | <input type="checkbox"/> Other areas in Bangladesh _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Matlab non-DSS area | <input type="checkbox"/> Outside Bangladesh |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mirzapur | name of country: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dhaka Community | <input type="checkbox"/> Multi centre trial |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chakaria | (Name other countries involved) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Abhoynagar | _____ |

Revised on: July 2001

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Type of Study (Check all that apply):

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Case Control study | <input type="checkbox"/> Cross sectional survey |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community based trial / intervention | <input type="checkbox"/> Longitudinal Study (cohort or follow-up) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Program Project (Umbrella) | <input type="checkbox"/> Record Review |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Secondary Data Analysis | <input type="checkbox"/> Prophylactic trial |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clinical Trial (Hospital/Clinic) | <input type="checkbox"/> Surveillance / monitoring |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family follow-up study | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Others: <u>Diagnostic tests</u> |

Targeted Population (Check all that apply):

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No ethnic selection (Bangladeshi) | <input type="checkbox"/> Expatriates |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bangalee | <input type="checkbox"/> Immigrants |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tribal groups | <input type="checkbox"/> Refugee |

Consent Process (Check all that apply):

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Written | <input type="checkbox"/> Bengali language |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oral | <input type="checkbox"/> English language |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None | |

Proposed Sample size:

Total sample size: 350

Sub-group _____ _____

_____ _____

Determination of Risk: Does the Research Involve (Check all that apply):

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Human exposure to radioactive agents? | <input type="checkbox"/> Human exposure to infectious agents? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fetal tissue or abortus? | <input type="checkbox"/> Investigational new drug |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Investigational new device?
(specify _____) | <input type="checkbox"/> Existing data available via public archives/source |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Existing data available from Co-investigator | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pathological or diagnostic clinical specimen only |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Observation of public behaviour |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> New treatment regime |

Yes/No

Is the information recorded in such a manner that subjects can be identified from information provided directly or through identifiers linked to the subjects?

Does the research deal with sensitive aspects of the subject's behaviour; sexual behaviour, alcohol use or illegal conduct such as drug use?

Could the information recorded about the individual if it became known outside of the research:

a. place the subject at risk of criminal or civil liability?

b. damage the subject's financial standing, reputation or employability; social rejection, lead to stigma, divorce etc.

Do you consider this research (Check one):

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> greater than minimal risk | <input type="checkbox"/> no more than minimal risk |
| <input type="checkbox"/> no risk | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> only part of the diagnostic test |

Minimal Risk is "a risk where the probability and magnitude of harm or discomfort anticipated in the proposed research are not greater in and of themselves than those ordinarily encountered in daily life or during the performance of routine physical, psychological examinations or tests. For example, the risk of drawing a small amount of blood from a healthy individual for research purposes is no greater than the risk of doing so as a part of routine physical examination".

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Yes/No

Is the proposal funded?

If yes, sponsor Name: University of Basel, Switzerland (Prof. Klaus Ger)

Yes/No

Is the proposal being submitted for funding ?

If yes, name of funding agency: (1) _____

(2) _____

Do any of the participating investigators and/or their immediate families have an equity relationship (e.g. stockholder) with the sponsor of the project or manufacturer and/or owner of the test product or device to be studied or serve as a consultant to any of the above?

IF YES, submit a written statement of disclosure to the Director.

Dates of Proposed Period of Support (Day, Month, Year - DD/MM/YY)	Cost Required for the Budget Period (\$)			
	a. 1st Year	2nd Year	3rd Year	Other years
Beginning date <u>As soon as possible</u>	<u>US\$12,000</u>	<u>x</u>	<u>x</u>	<u>x</u>
End date <u>1 year from the starting date</u>	b. Direct Cost: <u>US\$12,000</u>		Total Cost: <u>US\$12,000</u>	

Approval of the Project by the Division Director of the Applicant

The above-mentioned project has been discussed and reviewed at the Division level as well by the external reviewer. The protocol has been revised according to the reviewer's comments and is approved.

Signature of the Division Director

04/02/2001
Date of Approval

Certification by the Principal Investigator
I certify that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or omissions may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. I agree to accept responsibility for the scientific conduct of the project and to provide the required progress reports if a grant is awarded as a result of this application.

Signature of PI [Signature]
Date: 31-01-2001
Name of Contact Person (if applicable)

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Check here if appendix is included

PROJECT SUMMARY: Describe in concise terms, the hypothesis, objectives, and the relevant background of the project. Describe concisely the experimental design and research methods for achieving the objectives. This description will serve as a succinct and precise and accurate description of the proposed research is required. This summary must be understandable and interpretable when removed from the main application. (TYPE TEXT WITHIN THE SPACE PROVIDED).

Principal Investigator

Project Name: Evaluation of lactoferrin (Latex agglutination-Leuko-Test® and a new dip stick-Leuko-Stick®-Test) and modified guaiac (Colo-Rectal®-Test) as screening tests in the diagnosis and differentiation of inflammatory and non-inflammatory diarrhoea in patients with acute infectious diarrhoea

Total Budget: US \$ 12,000 **Starting Date:** As soon as possible **Ending Date:** 1 year from starting date

In developing countries like Bangladesh infectious diarrhoea is one of the most important causes of death, especially in young children. Early differentiation between inflammatory and non-inflammatory diarrhoea is important because of the broad spectrum of underlying causes of acute diarrhoea. Most cases of acute diarrhoea are self-limiting and need only symptomatic therapy and most importantly adequate fluid substitution and nutritional support. *Shigella* and *Salmonella* species, *Campylobacter*, *Clostridium difficile*, *EIEC*, *EHEC* and invasive parasites like *Entamoeba histolytica* however, can cause severe intestinal inflammation and need focused diagnosis and sometimes-specific antibiotic treatment. The unselected and widespread use of antibiotics in the treatment of acute diarrhoeal illnesses especially in developing countries are an unnecessary use of hundred of millions of dollars in developing countries and in addition to the likelihood of inappropriate therapy are contributing to a dramatic increase of resistant strains which limit treatment options severely. This not only affects the costs of treatment but will possibly lead to an increase in mortality rates by creating multiple resistant strains. Strain resistance will not only affect the population in developing countries but also travelers who are often prone to acute diarrheal illnesses. The clinical differentiation between inflammatory and non-inflammatory diarrhoea is in most cases impossible because of the lack of clear evidence of macroscopic visible blood or pus in the stool or even fever. The microscopic examination of stool and staining for stool leukocytes with methylene blue has been widely recommended to be a rapid, simple and reliable screening test to distinguish inflammatory from non-inflammatory diarrhoeas. Stool microscopy requires an experienced technician and basic laboratory equipment. In addition, it should be performed on fresh stool samples because storage destroys the morphology of the leukocytes. In 1983, a modified guaiac test to detect occult blood in faeces was shown to yield a good correlation with the fecal leukocyte examination in patients suffering from acute inflammatory diarrhoea. These data were confirmed by Beltinger in 1997 and Bardhan in 2000 in a prospective study in Bangladesh in a large number of patients. According to the study, occult blood in the stool has the same sensitivity and positive predictive value as stool microscopy. Guerrant and coworkers used a marker for leukocytes, fecal lactoferrin in stool specimens as reference for an inflammatory process. Lactoferrin is a 77-kDa iron-binding glycoprotein that facilitates the production of hydroxyl radicals and chelates iron, preventing its accessibility to microorganisms and thus inhibiting their growth. It is present in high amounts especially in the granula of polymorphonuclear leukocytes. Invasive enteropathogens, which interact with intestinal epithelial cells or even cross the epithelial barrier, attract inflammatory cells in the submucosa such as polymorphonuclear leukocytes. Based on an antilactoferrin latex agglutination test (Leuko-Test, Techlab, Blacksburg, VA) the semiquantitative measurement of the titer gave evidence for an inflammatory process and therefore a possibility to distinguish between inflammatory and non-inflammatory diarrhoea. A new developed test to look for lactoferrin; a lactoferrin dip stick (Leuko-Stick, Techlab, Blacksburg, VA) test uses an immunochromatographic method, which has been widely used in pregnancy tests to simplify the diagnostic procedure. In a meta analysis to evaluate the diagnostic value of different fecal screening tests, which included 25 large studies, the fecal lactoferrin test had the highest diagnostic performance for the discrimination of inflammatory from non-inflammatory diarrhoeas. The aim of this study is to

evaluate the lactoferrin test (Latex agglutination-Leuko-Test and a new dip stick-Leuko-Stick Test) alone and in combination with the occult blood (Colo-Rectal Test^R) test in the diagnosis and differentiation of inflammatory vs. non-inflammatory diarrhoea in patients with acute diarrhoea and to compare these results with the number of leukocytes in the stool, the stool microscopy and the results of stool culture. This study will be using the surveillance system of the ICDDR,B where stool specimens are randomly collected and stool culture performed. The study will try to set up an easy, inexpensive screening test and algorithm, which will be of use under field conditions where no laboratory facilities are available. It is also intended to reduce the costs for unnecessary stool culture and the unreflected use of antibiotics.

KEY PERSONNEL (List names of all investigators including PI and their respective specialties)

Name	Professional Discipline/ Specialty	Role in the Project
1. Dr. Hasan Ashraf	Medicine/Gastroenterology	PI
2. Dr. Johannes Beltinger	Medicine/Gastroenterology	Co-PI
3. Dr. Nur Haque Alam	Medicine/Gastroenterology	Co-Investigator
4. Dr. P.K. Bardhan	Medicine/Gastroenterology	Co-Investigator
5. Dr. S.A. Sarker	Medicine/Gastroenterology	Co-Investigator
6. Dr. A.S.G. Faruque	Epidemiologist	Co-Investigator
7. Prof. Klaus Gyr	Medicine/Gastroenterology	Co-Investigator

DESCRIPTION OF THE RESEARCH PROJECT

Hypothesis to be tested:

Concisely list in order, in the space provided, the hypothesis to be tested and the Specific Aims of the proposed study. Provide the scientific basis of the hypothesis, critically examining the observations leading to the formulation of the hypothesis.

1. Lactoferrin test (Latex agglutination test and a new dip stick test) alone and in combination with occult blood test is an useful screening test in the diagnosis and differentiation of inflammatory vs. non-inflammatory diarrhoea in patients with acute infectious diarrhoea. A positive lactoferrin test result actually indicates an increased level of faecal leucocytes suggestive of inflammatory diarrhoea and a negative result indicates non-inflammatory diarrhoea.

Specific Aims:

Describe the specific aims of the proposed study. State the specific parameters, biological functions/ rates/ processes that will be assessed by specific methods (TYPE WITHIN LIMITS).

To evaluate the lactoferrin test (Latex agglutination test and a new dip stick test) alone and in combination with the occult blood test in the diagnosis and differentiation of inflammatory vs. non-inflammatory diarrhoea in patients with acute diarrhoea and to compare these results with stool microscopy and stool culture reports. The proposed test is a substitute of the faecal microscopy and not a gold standard.

Background of the Project including Preliminary Observations

Describe the relevant background of the proposed study. Discuss the previous related works on the subject by citing specific references. Describe logically how the present hypothesis is supported by the relevant background observations including any preliminary results that may be available. Critically analyze available knowledge in the field of the proposed study and discuss the questions and gaps in the knowledge that need to be fulfilled to achieve the proposed goals. Provide scientific validity of the hypothesis on the basis of background information. If there is no sufficient information on the subject, indicate the need to develop new knowledge. Also include the **significance and rationale** of the proposed work by specifically discussing how these accomplishments will bring benefit to human health in relation to biomedical, social, and environmental perspectives. (DO NOT EXCEED 5 PAGES, USE CONTINUATION SHEETS).

In developing countries infectious diarrhoea is one of the most important causes of death, especially in young children. Attack rates attributable to diarrhoeal disease in young children are estimated 6-12 episodes/child per year and overall death rate of 3.2-3.5 million/year (Bern *et al.*, 1992; Savarino and Bourgeois, 1993). Primary prevention by improving hygiene or by administering an effective vaccine is not likely to be feasible in the near future in these areas. Despite great improvement in the management of acute diarrhoea and a remarkable reduction in death rates the number of fatalities still remains unacceptably high (Claeson and Merson, 1990; WHO, 1999). Therefore, the early initiation of effective antimicrobial therapy for patients suffering from severe inflammatory diarrhoea will remain a major strategy to reduce mortality rates (Ronsmans *et al.*, 1988; Richards *et al.*, 1993).

Early differentiation between inflammatory and non-inflammatory diarrhoea is important because of the broad spectrum of underlying causes of acute diarrhoea. Most cases of acute diarrhoea are self-limiting and need only symptomatic therapy and most importantly adequate fluid substitution and nutritional support. *Shigella* and *Salmonella* species, *Campylobacter*, *Clostridium difficile*, *EIEC*, *EHEC* and invasive parasites like *Entamoeba histolytica* however, can cause severe intestinal inflammation and need focused diagnosis and sometimes-specific antibiotic treatment.

The unselected and widespread use of antibiotics in the treatment of acute diarrhoeal illnesses especially in developing countries are an unnecessary use of hundred of millions of dollars in developing countries and in addition to the likelihood of inappropriate therapy are contributing (Harris and Black, 1991; DuPont, 1993) to a

dramatic increase of resistant strains which limit treatment options severely (Ronsmans *et al.*, 1996). This not only affects the costs of treatment but will possibly lead to an increase in mortality rates by creating multiple resistant strains. Strain resistance will not only affect the population in developing countries, but also travellers who are often prone to acute diarrhoeal illnesses (Caeiro and DuPont, 1998; WHO, 1998).

The clinical differentiation between inflammatory and non-inflammatory diarrhoea is in most cases impossible because of the lack of clear evidence of macroscopic visible blood or pus in the stool or even fever.

The microscopic examination of stool and staining for stool leukocytes with methylen blue has been widely recommended to be a rapid, simple and reliable screening test to distinguish inflammatory from non-inflammatory diarrhoeas (Willmore and Shearman, 1918; Wolf, 1969; Harris *et al.*, 1972; Satterwhite and DuPont, 1976; Pickering *et al.*, 1977; Maki *et al.*, 1979; Alvarado, 1983) Stool microscopy, however requires an experienced technician and basic laboratory equipment. In developing countries, where rates of diarrhoeal illness are high, most people do not have access to such services or even to physicians. In addition stool microscopy should be performed on fresh stool samples because storage destroys the morphology of the leukocytes.

In 1983, a modified guaiac (Colo-Rectal[®]-Test) to detect occult blood in faeces was shown to yield a good correlation with the fecal leukocyte examination in-patients suffering from acute inflammatory diarrhoea (Vogtlin *et al.*, 1983). These data were confirmed by Beltinger *et al.* (Beltinger *et al.*, 1997) and Bardhan *et al.* (Bardhan *et al.*, 2000) in a prospective study in Bangladesh in a large number of patients. According to this study, occult blood in the stool has the same sensitivity and positive predictive value as stool microscopy.

In this study the predictive value of different cut-off points of the stool microscopy was shown. The best predictive value to give evidence for a mediator of inflammatory diarrhoea was a number of > 20 leukocytes per high power field in the stool microscopy followed by the combination of >10 erythrocytes and >1 leukocytes per high power field. These data were confirmed in other studies, one on pediatric patients (Patwari *et al.*, 1993) and in-patients with shigellosis. Clinical information alone however was insufficient to be used as a predictor to distinguish between inflammatory and non-inflammatory diarrhoea (Bardhan *et al.*, 2000).

Guerrant and coworkers used a marker for leukocytes, fecal lactoferrin in stool specimens as reference for an inflammatory process. Lactoferrin is a 77-kDa iron-binding glycoprotein that facilitates the production of hydroxyl radicals and chelates iron, preventing its accessibility to microorganisms and thus inhibiting their growth. It is present in various concentrations in several body fluids including colostrum, mature milk, vaginal mucus, blood, sputum and saliva (Martins *et al.*, 1995) and is found in high amounts especially in the granula of polymorphonuclear leukocytes. Invasive enteropathogens which interact with intestinal epithelial cells or even cross the epithelial barrier attract inflammatory cells in the submucosa such as polymorphonuclear leukocytes. Based on an antilactoferrin latex agglutination test (Leuko-Test[®] test, Techlab, Blacksburg, VA) the semiquantitative measurement of the titer gave evidence for an inflammatory process and therefore a possibility to distinguish between inflammatory and non-inflammatory diarrhoea (Miller *et al.*, 1994). A new developed test to look for lactoferrin; a lactoferrin dipstick test (Leuko-Stick[®]) uses an immunochromatographic method, which has been widely used in pregnancy tests to simplify the diagnostic procedure.

In a meta analysis to evaluate the diagnostic value of different fecal screening tests which included 25 large studies (Huicho *et al.*, 1996), the fecal lactoferrin test had the highest diagnostic performance for the discrimination of inflammatory from non-inflammatory diarrhoeas. One limitation of this test remains the possible interaction of the anti-lactoferrin antibodies with human milk lactoferrin especially in breast-fed infants. In a prospective study in Mexico where the lactoferrin test was used to study infants below 2 years, the lactoferrin test was shown to have the same sensitivity in breast vs non breast fed children but a lower specificity (Huicho *et al.*, 1997). In Bangladesh, however, these group of children are the one most affected by acute diarrhoeal illnesses (Baqui *et al.*, 1992).

This study will be using the surveillance system of the ICDDR,B where stool specimens are randomly collected and stool culture performed.

Research Design and Methods

Describe in detail the methods and procedures that will be used to accomplish the objectives and specific aims of the project. Discuss the alternative methods that are available and justify the use of the method proposed in the study. Justify the scientific validity of the methodological approach (biomedical, social, or environmental) as an investigation tool to achieve the specific aims. Discuss the limitations and difficulties of the proposed procedures and sufficiently justify the use of them. Discuss the ethical issues related to biomedical and social research for employing special procedures, such as invasive procedures in sick children, use of isotopes or any other hazardous materials, or social questionnaires relating to individual privacy. Point out safety procedures to be observed for protection of individuals during any situations or materials that may be injurious to human health. The methodology section should be sufficiently descriptive to allow the reviewers to make valid and unambiguous assessment of the project. (DO NOT EXCEED TEN PAGES, USE CONTINUATION SHEETS).

Study population

The study will be conducted at the Dhaka Hospital of the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh (ICDDR,B). Patients enrolled in the study will belong to 2% systematic sample of all patients registering at the out patient department of the hospital (Dhaka Hospital Surveillance System) (Stoll *et. al.*, 1982).

History and physical examination will be performed by a physician, noting particularly clinical features such as the presence of visible blood and/or mucus in the stool, fever (rectal temperature $>38^{\circ}\text{C}$), abdominal pain or tenderness, tenesmus and the degree of dehydration. Patient enrolment will continue for one calendar year and all patients belonging to the surveillance protocol during this period will be included.

Patients are categorized as having one of the following clinical types of diarrhoea: acute watery diarrhoea (AWD), invasive diarrhoea (ID), or persistent diarrhoea (PD). Stool samples for microscopical examination, and rectal swabs for culture are obtained from every patient in the surveillance group. There are no restrictions as to age.

Laboratory Methods

Stool microscopic examination will be performed within one hour of collection of stool by an experienced technician. The average numbers of leukocytes as well as red blood cells per high power field (hpf) will be determined in a wet mount preparation. Samples are microscopically examined for red blood cells (recorded as 0, 1-10, 11-20, 21-50, >50) per high power field (hpf), white blood cells (1-10, 11-20, 21-50, >50) per hpf, stool fat (no, few, moderate, many) and parasites (especially motile trophozoites of *E. histolytica*), by a direct smear without concentration techniques.

The rectal swabs will be taken and plated directly on different culture media (Salmonella-Shigella (SS), Taurocholate-tellurite-gelatine and MacConkey's agar) and examined for *Salmonella*, *non-typhoid Salmonella*, *Shigella*, *Vibrio cholera*, *Aeromonas* and *Plesiomonas* by standard methods. Rectal swabs will also be plated on Campy-BAP agar to isolate *Campylobacters*, and a pool of 5 colonies of *E. coli* from MacConkey agar for *diarrhogenic E. coli* by DNA probing. Patients will also be tested for Rotavirus by ELISA.

In addition, the following tests for the detection of faecal occult blood and stool leucocytes will be performed in the clinical pathology laboratory.

1. Modified guaiac-test (Colo-Rectal[®]-Test, Roche AG, Switzerland). This test is based on the peroxidase activity of haemoglobin, which causes a colour change in the presence of H_2O_2 and guaiac. The detection limit is 1-2ml blood per 100g stool, according to the manufacturer. The result will be considered positive when the test fields turns blue after adding the reagent or negative when there is no colour change.
2. A lactoferrin test latex agglutination test (Leuko-Test[®], TechLab[®], VA, USA) will be performed according to the instructions by the manufacturer: 50 μl of stool will be mixed with a buffered solution containing 0.1% sodium azide. Latex beads coated with antibodies against lactoferrin will be reacted with the stool sample on an agglutination card. A positive control and a negative control will monitor the quality of the test.
3. At the same time the Leuko-Stick[®] Test (TechLab[®], VA, USA) a new rapid immunochromatographic test will be performed. The same dilution as with the LeucoTest[®] will be used and four drops of the diluted sample are transferred to a well on the test stripe. After five minutes incubation a positive result will show a red line in the test well and in a control well.

Sample size

If we assume a number of approximately 100,000 patients per year in the Dhaka Hospital of ICDDR,B, there would be 2000 patients included in the 2% surveillance study. Assuming 30% positive stool culture we could include 600 patients with a positive result in stool culture (including inflammatory and non-inflammatory cases). With a power of 80 we would need 350 patients to prove an increase of the sensitivity and specificity of the occult blood test / stool microscopy to differentiate between inflammatory and non-inflammatory diarrhoea by 15%.

Facilities Available

Describe the availability of physical facilities at the place where the study will be carried out. For clinical and laboratory-based studies, indicate the provision of hospital and other types of patient's care facilities and adequate laboratory support. Point out the laboratory facilities and major equipments that will be required for the study. For field studies, describe the field area including its size, population, and means of communications. (TYPE WITHIN THE PROVIDED SPACE).

The present study will be conducted in the Clinical Research and Service Centre (CRSC) of the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh (ICDDR,B). This centre treats more than 100,000 diarrhoeal patients each year, majority of whom are children under 5 years. Patients enrolled in the study will belong to 2% systematic sample of all patients registering at the out patient department of the hospital (Dhaka Hospital Surveillance System) (Stoll *et. al.*, 1982).

Data Analysis

Describe plans for data analysis. Indicate whether data will be analyzed by the investigators themselves or by other professionals. Specify what statistical softwares packages will be used and if the study is blinded, when the code will be opened. For clinical trials, indicate if interim data analysis will be required to monitor further progress of the study. (TYPE WITHIN THE PROVIDED SPACE).

Data management and analyses plan:

For the purpose of comparison, the isolation of pathogens from the faecal samples will serve as the gold standard. Statistical significance for proportions will be tested by the chi-square test and Fisher exact test. Sensitivity (proportion of invasive diarrhoea patients correctly identified), specificity (proportion of non-invasive diarrhoea patients correctly identified), positive predictive value (proportion of patients with positive test result who will have invasive diarrhoea), negative predictive value (proportion of patients with negative test result who will have non-invasive diarrhoea), accuracy (proportion of total patients correctly identified), and likelihood ratio (ratio of the probability of a positive test result in invasive diarrhoea with the corresponding probability in non-invasive diarrhoea) will be calculated according to the standard methods. Optimal predictive parameters will be defined by constructing a Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC) curve. P-value will be set at <0.05. Subgroup analysis of data for the breastfed and non-breastfed children will be done separately.

Ethical Assurance for Protection of Human Rights

Describe in the space provided the justifications for conducting this research in human subjects. If the study needs observations on sick individuals, provide sufficient reasons for using them. Indicate how subject's rights are protected and if there is any benefit or risk to each subject of the study.

Not required.

Literature Cited

Identify all cited references to published literature in the text by number in parentheses. List all cited references sequentially as they appear in the text. For unpublished references, provide complete information in the text and do not include them in the list of Literature Cited. There is no page limit for this section, however exercise judgment in assessing the "standard" length.

1. Alvarado, T. (1983). Faecal leucocytes in patients with infectious diarrhoea. *Trans R Soc Trop Med Hyg* 77(3):316-20.
2. Baqui, A.H., R.E. Black, R.B. Sack, M.D. Yunus, A.K. Siddique and H.R. Chowdhury (1992). Epidemiological and clinical characteristics of acute and persistent diarrhoea in rural Bangladeshi children. *Acta Paediatrica* 381 (Suppl):15-21.
3. Bardhan, P.K., J. Beltinger, R. W. Beltinger, A. Hossain, D. Mahalanabis and K. Gyr (2000). Screening of patients with acute infectious diarrhoea: evaluation of clinical features, faecal microscopy, and faecal occult blood testing. *Scand J Gastroenterol* 35(1):54-60.
4. Beltinger, J., R. Walther, P. Bardhan, D. Mahalanabis and K. Gyr (1997). Immunological testing for occult blood in patients with acute infectious diarrhea. Can it improve the specificity of the guaiac test? *Digestive Diseases & Sciences* 42(2):366-71.
5. Bern, C., J. Martiness, I. De Zoysa and R.I. Glass (1992). The magnitude of the global problem of diarrhoeal disease: a ten-year update. *Bulletin of the World Health Organisation* 70:705-714.
6. Caeiro, J.P. and H.L. DuPont (1998). Management of travellers' diarrhoea. *Drugs* 56(1):73-81.
7. Claeson, M. and M.H. Merson (1990). Global progress in the control of diarrhoeal diseases. *Pediatric Infectious Disease Journal* 9:345-355.
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Dissemination and Use of Findings

Describe explicitly the plans for disseminating the accomplished results. Describe what type of publication is anticipated: working papers, internal (institutional) publication, international publications, international conferences and agencies, workshops etc. Mention if the project is linked to the Government of Bangladesh through a training programme.

The results of the study will be disseminated through publishing in the international journals and presenting in the national and international conferences.

Collaborative Arrangements

Describe briefly if this study involves any scientific, administrative, fiscal, or programmatic arrangements with other national or international organizations or individuals. Indicate the nature and extent of collaboration and include a letter of agreement between the applicant or his/her organization and the collaborating organization. (DO NOT EXCEED ONE PAGE)

This is a collaborative study between the University of Basel, Switzerland and Clinical Sciences Division, ICDDR,B. The collaboration is organized by Prof. Klaus Gyr, Department of Internal Medicine, University of Basel, Switzerland.

Detailed Budget for New Proposal

Project Title: Evaluation of lactoferrin (Latex agglutination- Leuko-Test[®] and a new dip stick-Leuko-Stick[™] test and modified guaiac (Colorectal[®]-test) as screening test in the diagnosis and differentiation of inflammatory and non-inflammatory diarrhoea in patients with acute infectious diarrhoea.

Name of PI: Dr. Hasan Ashraf

Protocol Number: 2001-003

Name of Division: Clinical Sciences Division

Funding Source :

Amount Funded (Total): US \$ 12,000

Starting Date: As soon as possible

Closing Date: 1 year from the starting date

SL.No.	Account Description	Salary Support		US \$ Amount Requested	
		Position	Effort %	1 st Year	Total
	Personnel				
1.	Dr. Hasan Ashraf	PI	10%	1,355	1,355
2.	Dr. Nur Haque Alam	Co-Inv	5%	862	862
3.	Research Officer		100	3,683	3,683
4.	Lab. Attendant-4		100x4	3,600	3,600
	Sub-Total			9,500	9,500

Supplies and Materials (Description of items)					
	Office supplies			500	500
	Non-stock			500	500
	Sub Totals			1000	1000
	Other Contractual Services				
	Printing and Publication			500	500
	Fax, DHL & other utilities			500	500
	Sub Total			1000	1000

Interdepartmental Services				1 st Year	Total
	Transport			500	500
	Sub Total			500	500
	TOTAL COST			12,000	12,000

Boz 16/10/01
Md. Bozlur Rahman
 Manager, Budget & Control
 ICDDR, B: Centre for
 Health & Population Research
 Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212
 Bangladesh

Budget Justifications

Please provide one page statement justifying the budgeted amount for each major item. Justify use of man power, major equipment, and laboratory services.

Salaries of personnel are requested according to the percentage of work of each person involved in the study. The study materials like diagnostic kits will be provided free of cost by the respective companies. The stool microscopy and culture results will be collected from the Surveillance study.

Check List

After completing the protocol, please check that the following selected items have been included.

1. Face Sheet Included
2. Approval of the Division Director on Face Sheet
3. Certification and Signature of PI on Face Sheet, #9 and #10
4. Table on Contents
5. Project Summary
6. Literature Cited
7. Biography of Investigators
8. Ethical Assurance
9. Consent Forms
10. Detailed Budget