

# Chlamydophila psittaci and Chlamydophila pecorum infections in goats and sheep in Egypt.

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## Abstract

The aim of this study was to investigate the epidemiology of chlamydiosis in free-ranging asymptomatic and diarrhoeic sheep and goats in Egypt. Faecal swabs were examined for the presence of Chlamydiae by culture in Vero cells and chick embryos, and staining with Giménez, direct fluorescein-conjugated monoclonal antibodies, and immunoperoxidase. Specific chlamydial DNA was identified by amplification of the omp2 gene. The asymptomatic goats were 50% positive for the presence of the omp2 gene of the family Chlamydiaceae, and all isolates were *Chlamydophila psittaci*. The percentage of diseased goats in which Chlamydiaceae were identified was 16.2%, and all were positive for *Cp. psittaci*. Of the asymptomatic sheep, 6.7% were positive for the omp2 gene of the family Chlamydiaceae, and again all were positive for *Cp. psittaci*. In contrast, 42.9% of the samples that were collected from the diseased sheep were positive for Chlamydiaceae, of which 25.7% were *Cp. psittaci* and 4.8% *Cp. pecorum*.

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