

## PREVALENCE STUDY OF TOXOPLASMOSIS AMONG MALES

### BLOOD DONORS IN THI-QAR PROVINCE –IRAQ

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#### ABSTRACT

*Toxoplasma gondii* is a unique intracellular parasite, which infects a large proportion of the world, population, but clinically uncommonly causes significant disease. The present study was performed for the first time in Thi-Qar province to estimate the prevalence of toxoplasmosis among males blood donors. Blood samples were collected from 184 healthy males they have ages between (18 – 60) years from main blood transfusion center in Nassaryia city during period from October 2014 to March 2015. The results indicated that 38.04 % of males were exposed to positive for anti-*Toxoplasma* antibodies, 2.7% of them had IgM, 35.3 % had IgG, statistically they were significant differences between them. The current study also showed that the highest positive percentage with *T. gondii* at age (18 – 27) years 38.5 % while the lowest percentage at age (48-60) 11.4 %. Seropositive toxoplasmosis was higher in males inhabited rural region 88.5% ,than in males inhabited urban region, 11.4 %. Chronic and acute toxoplasmosis infection in married males included in this study was significantly higher 55 (78.5%), 4(5.7%) respectively than unmarried males 10 (14,2%), 1(1.4%) respectively. However married males showed significant differences between fertile and infertile infected males they were 18 (30.5%), 3 (5.08%) and 37(62.7%), 1(0.1%) by ELISA IgG and IgM respectively. The present study revealed an association between blood group system and *Toxoplasma* infection with highest prevalence among samples of blood group A 37.1% and lowest prevalence in samples of blood group O (9.9%).

**KEYWORDS:** Age Group, Blood Group, ELISA, Toxoplasmosis, *Toxoplasma Gondii*