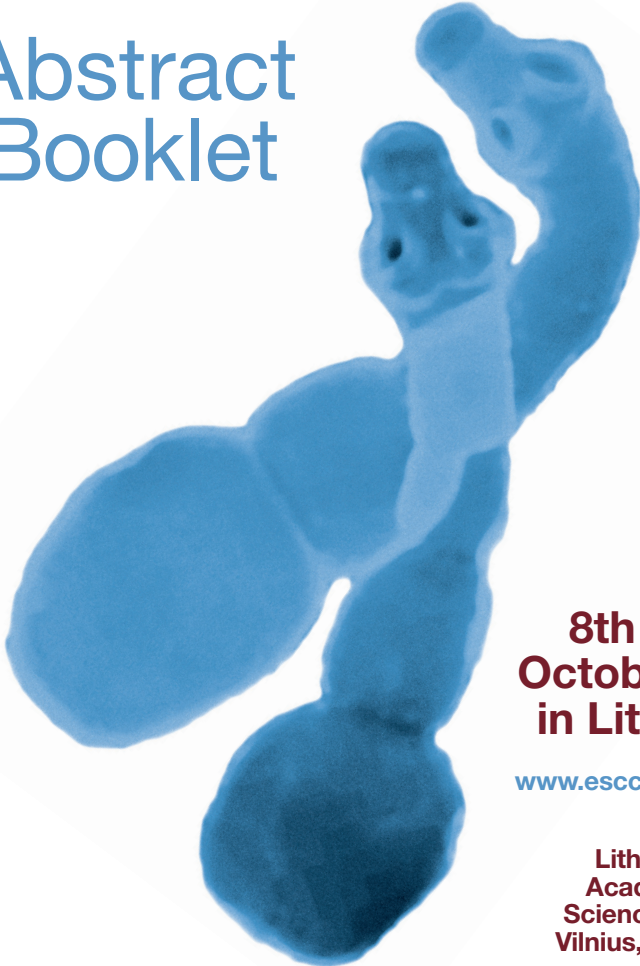




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Echinococcus

Abstract
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Poster Presentation

***Echinococcus granulosus* in pigs in central Poland – the pilot study**

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Cystic echinococcosis (CE), an important zoonotic infection, is considered an emerging disease in Eastern Europe and Asia. Recently in Poland the number of reported CE human cases was 29-36 per year (2010-2012, data of National Institute of Public Health). According to data from regional Veterinary Inspectorates, hundreds of morphologically unidentified lesions have been detected in pig livers during post-slaughter inspection. Since many of the lesions have been identified and reported as hydatid cysts based only on visual identification, this pilot study aimed to assess the prevalence of metacestodes of *E. granulosus* in pigs. The livers with lesions were collected in slaughterhouses subjected to four County Veterinary Inspectorates in central Poland. Data of pigs' origin were gathered with the aim for a further investigation of dog faecal samples from areas where *E. granulosus* positive pigs originated. To date we have collected over 170 samples of pig livers with unidentified nodular foci or/and cysts. Morphological examination (histopathology) to investigate the presence of fertile/non fertile cysts and the genetic identification of *Echinococcus* species are currently being performed.

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