

## Diagnostic traps: *Parabodo* cf. *caudatus*

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In a diagnostic laboratory in Warsaw in course of urinalysis microscopic examination, numerous motile protozoa were found in the urine of female preschool child. The initial diagnosis was *Trichomonas vaginalis*.

Doubts concerning the initial diagnosis were raised due to: the mode of locomotion and nonvisible undulating membrane. Material had been sent for consultancy to the Laboratory at Department of Parasitology and Vector-Borne Diseases, National Institute of Public Health – National Institute of Hygiene, Warsaw.

Based on the morphological features the protozoa present in the urine were classified as *Bodo*-like flagellate, most probably *Parabodo* cf. *caudatus* (= *Bodo caudatus*, = *Bodo urinarius*) (Figure 1). The sample was investigated many hours after collection and contamination of the urine could not be excluded thus, the origin of the “invasion” could not be unambiguously determined.

Inexperienced diagnostician may confuse flagellates with *Trichomonas vaginalis*. Therefore, continuous training of laboratory diagnosticians, focus on parasite’s morphology details and reference laboratory consultations are important in the laboratory diagnostics process.

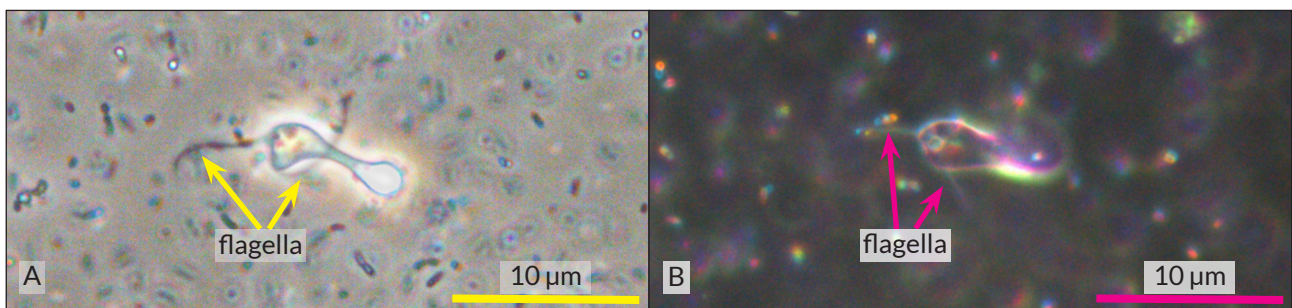


Figure 1. *Parabodo* cf. *caudatus* (A – phase-contrast, B – dark field).