

A survey of *Blastocystis* in domestic chickens from Poland and Madagascar

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Within the period of 2016–2019 there were examined about 100 faecal samples from domestic chickens from Poland and one sample that came from the chicken from Madagascar. Faecal samples were subjected to culture in modified Jones' medium. The DNA was extracted from culture using QIAamp DNA Mini Kit or A&A Biotechnology according to manufacturer's recommendations. Gene fragment of SSU-rRNA was amplified. The PCR products were purified and subjected to automated Sanger sequencing. *Blastocystis* subtype nomenclature follows that of Stensvold *et al.* (2007).

Molecular analyses showed that *Blastocystis* from Poland belonged to the following subtypes: ST5, ST6 and ST7, while the one from Madagascar (1 sample) belonged to ST5.

Earlier the *Blastocystis* sp. ST6 and *Blastocystis* sp. ST7 had been registered in Poland in chickens (Lewicki *et al.*, 2016) and in humans (Kaczmarek *et al.*, 2017; Rudzińska *et al.*, 2019). As for ST5 – according to our best knowledge this is the first record of *Blastocystis* sp. ST5 in Poland as well as in Madagascar.

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