

Cutaneous larva migrans

Larva migrans

- A group of conditions caused by **larvae of nematodes**, normally found in animal hosts
- Unable to develop to maturity inside humans.
- Migrate through the skin or other organs
- 2 types
 - ① Cutaneous larva migrans
 - ② Visceral larva migrans

Zoonotic infections

Cutaneous larva migrans

- Caused by the migration of **animal hookworm larvae** in the human skin
- Known as **creeping eruption**

- Causative agents

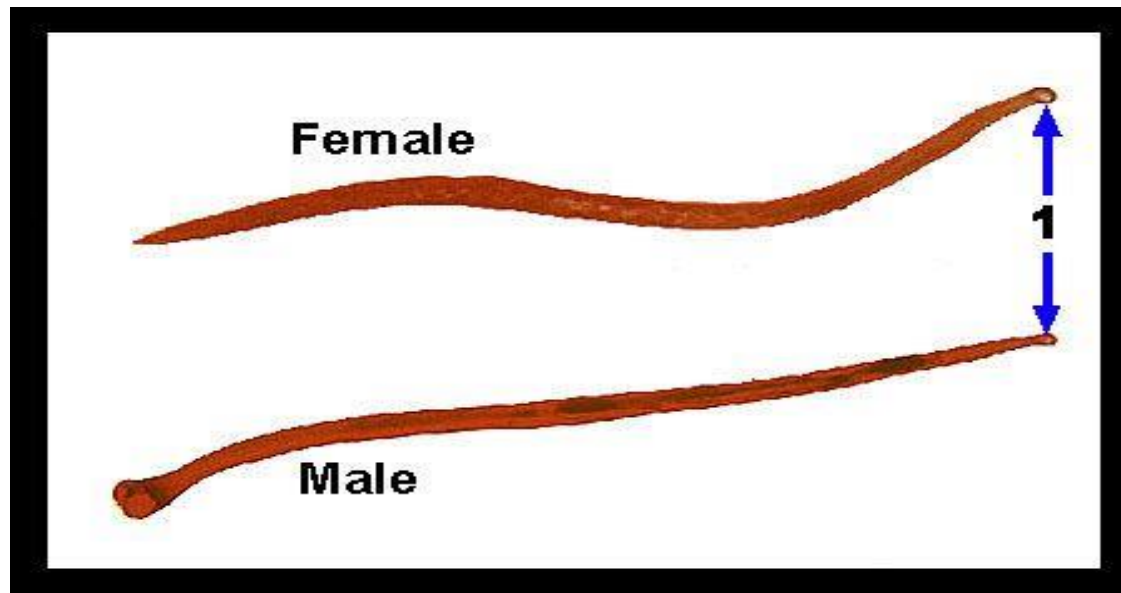
Ancylostoma braziliense (most common)

Ancylostoma caninum

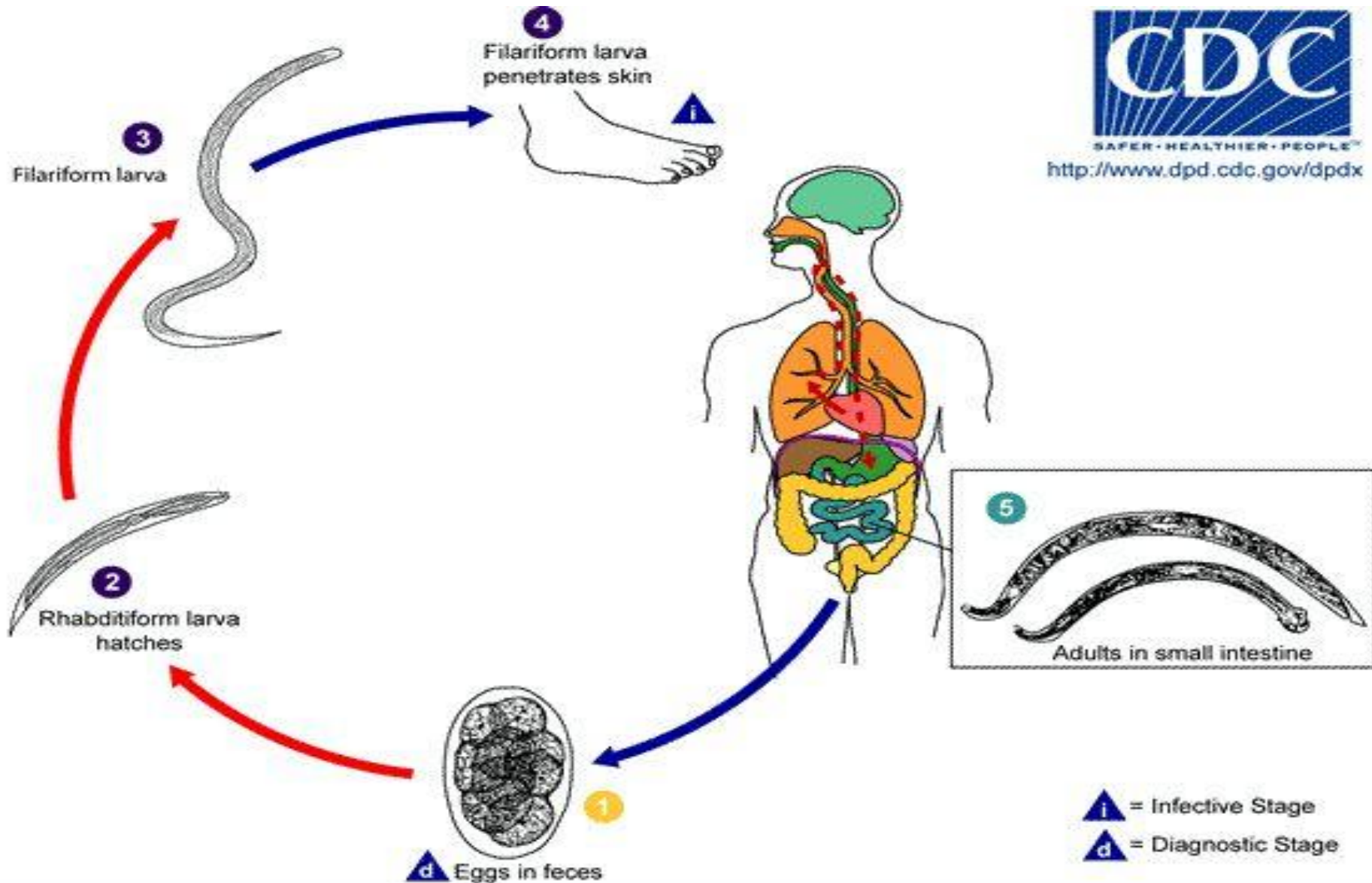
- ✓ Hookworms of cats & dogs.

Hookworms

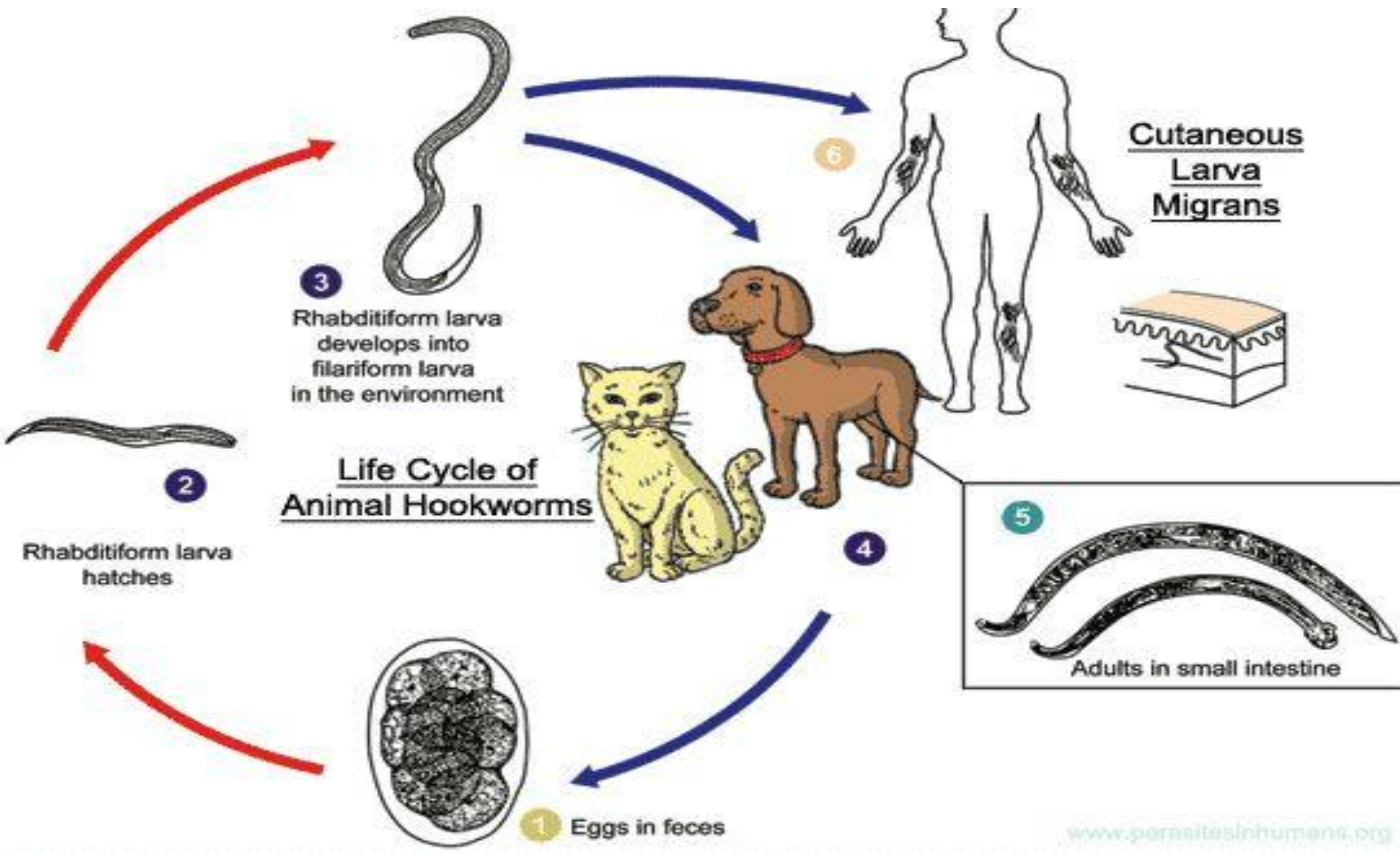
- Nematodes
- Non segmented cylindrical worms
- Well developed digestive tract
- Separate sexes
- Adult females lay eggs that hatch into larvae



Life cycle of human Hookworms

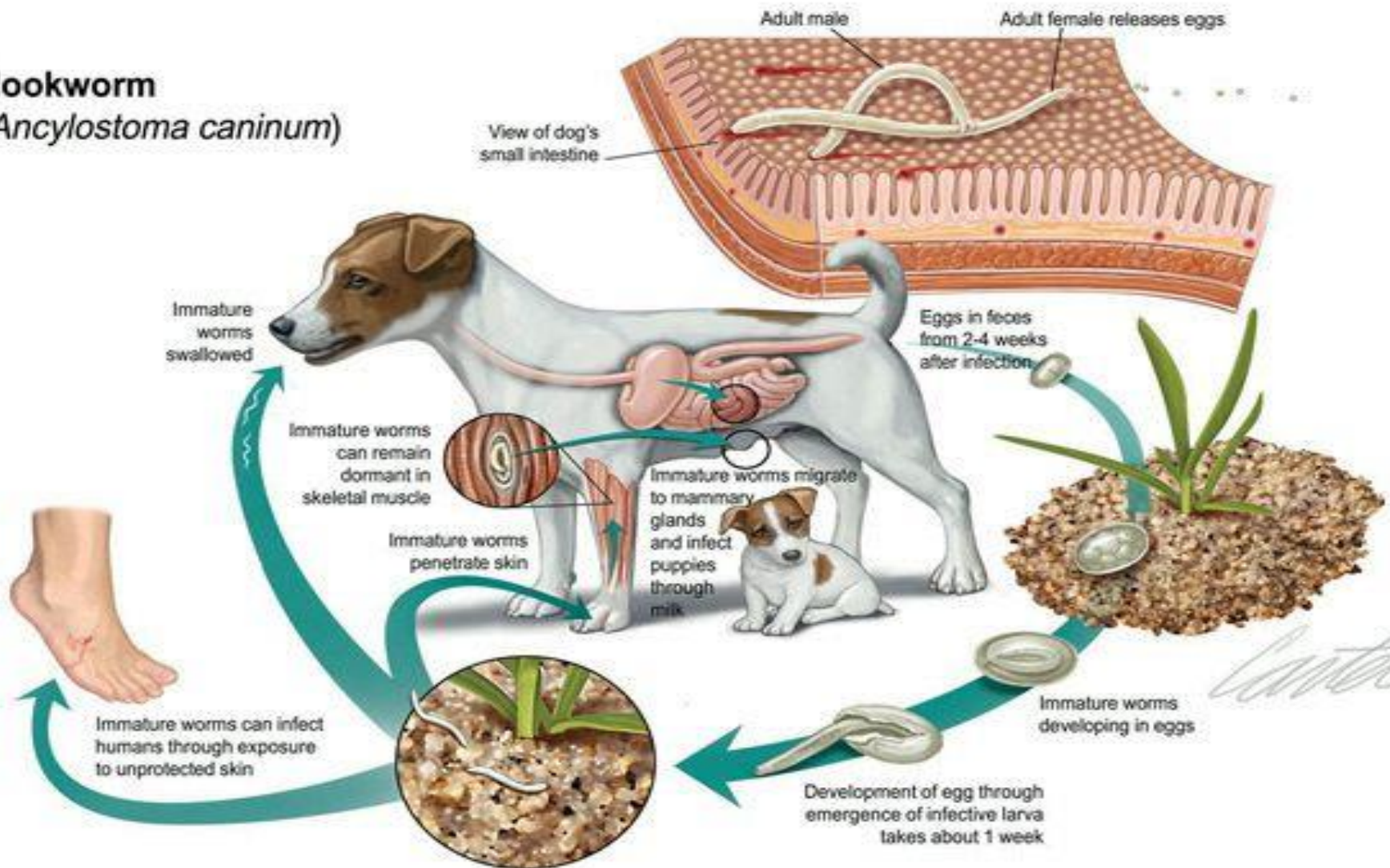


Life cycle of animal hookworms



Life cycle of animal hookworms

Hookworm (*Ancylostoma caninum*)



- ✓ Infected larvae(L3) in soil contaminated with cat & dog faeces.
- ✓ Enter the human skin but fail to penetrate beyond **dermis**.
- ✓ Migrate in the epidermis for several weeks
- ✓ Resolves after larva dies.

Epidemiology

- Prevalent in many tropical & subtropical countries.

People at increased risk

- ✓ Sea/fresh water bathers who lie on the sand.
- ✓ Plumbers
- ✓ Children playing in sand boxes

Clinical features

- Indurated, reddish, itchy Papules at the point of entry.
- Narrow, linear, slightly elevated, reddish, serpinginous, intra Cutaneous tunnels in 2,3days
- Move 2,3 mm a day
- Vesicles along the course of the tunnel.
- Severe itching, scratching, 2nd bacterial infection
- Commonly on feet, hands, legs



Diagnosis based on Clinical picture

Treatment

- ◆ Thiabendazole topically or orally
- ◆ Freezing with ethyl chloride or CO2 snow
- ◆ Antibiotics for 2ry bacterial infection

Prevention

- Avoid skin contact with soil contaminated with dog /cat faeces.
- Cover children's sandboxes
- Regular anthelmintic treatment for dogs/cats
- Avoid soil contamination with dog /cat faeces