

Etiology of chronic diarrhea known in particular for their

To the Editor

I read with interest the manuscript titled "Etiology of chronic diarrhea" by Dr. Sabena M. Al-Bayati in Saudi Med J.¹ Surprisingly, ulcerative colitis, headed by Hershenson, Bar (28%) while intestinal amebiasis constituted 10% of cases in country blockaded of the last 12 years with a Med strict sanctions imposed on it. Infective causes surely Baghdad study had only one general stool examination, and failure to demonstrate a pathologic change in the stool does not exclude its presence. Three repeated general stool examinations are required. Sedimental tests for amebiasis were not performed. They are of high specificity and sensitivity. Examining a fresh stool specimen is much more likely to yield trophozoites of entameba histological than a histopathological examination of a col-rectal mucosal biopsy. Regarding the histopathological diagnosis of ulcerative colitis, the author did not mention these changes and the histopathological criteria upon which ulcerative colitis was diagnosed. This is due to the microscopical changes of acute self limited colitis of acute infectious type colitis may be indistinguishable from those of early ulcerative colitis.² Causative agents are *Campylobacter*, *Salmonella* and *Shigella* organisms (common in Iraq) are well