

# Filariasis

- is commonly known as “elephantiasis.”

## Cause

Parasitic worms known as filarial nematode (Bancroftian or Brugian filariasis)

## Mode of Transmission

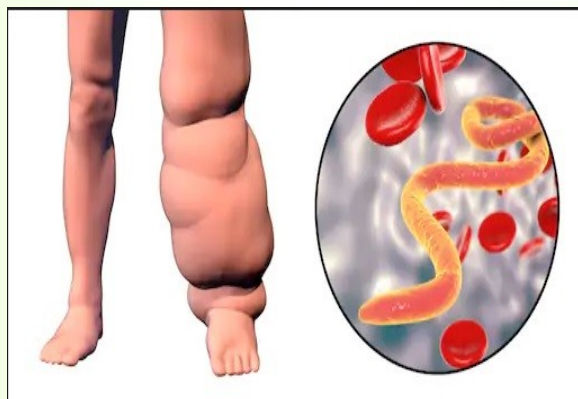
Parasitic worms transmitted to humans through the bite of an infected mosquito

## Signs and Symptoms

- Pain and swelling of the breast, vagina, scrotum, legs, and arms
- Fever
- Cough
- Chills
- Wheezing

## References

- BetterMedicine (2011). Lymphatic Filariasis. Retrieved from <http://www.bettermedicine.com/article/lymphatic-filariasis>
- DOH Philippines. (2005). Health Advisory on Filariasis.
- World Health Organization. (2011). Filariasis. Retrieved from <http://www.who.int/topics/filariasis/en>  
image from <http://dermaamin.com/site/atlas-of-dermatology/6-f/539-filariasis-.html>



## Treatment

- ⇒ Selective treatment with DEC (Diethylcarbamazine Citrate) is given to people with clinical manifestations of the disease.
- ⇒ Mass treatment of the people living in established endemic areas is carried out.
- ⇒ Medicines (DEC and albendazole) are given once a year to 2 years and above age group for a minimum of 5 years.

## Prevention

- ⇒ Wear long-sleeved shirt and long pants when working in farms or areas where filariasis is endemic.
- ⇒ Sleep under a mosquito net or use mosquito repellent.