

Absence of Thermophilic *Campylobacter* spp. in cloacal swab samples from seagulls (*Larus canus*) on Tonekabon, North of Iran

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Background & Objectives: *Campylobacter* species has been shown to be responsible for enteritis in human and animal. The natural habitats of most *Campylobacter* spp. are the intestines of birds and other warm-blooded animals. This study to determine the presence or absence of thermophilic *Campylobacter* species in the seagulls (*Larus canus*) population on Tonekabon, North of Iran.

Method: 140 cloacal swab samples from seagulls were collected in two seasons of winter and spring (2012) and cultured for isolation *Campylobacter* species.

Result: None of the cultures from the 140 birds sampled were positive for these organisms.

Conclusion: The results obtained suggest that seagulls (*Larus canus*) populations in investigation area are not currently infected with thermophilic *Campylobacter* species. The contamination of the waters of this region with *Campylobacter* which has been reported by other researchers is not related to these birds and it is possible that originates from house hold sewages and animal feces.

Keyword: *Campylobacter*; Seagulls; North of Iran

