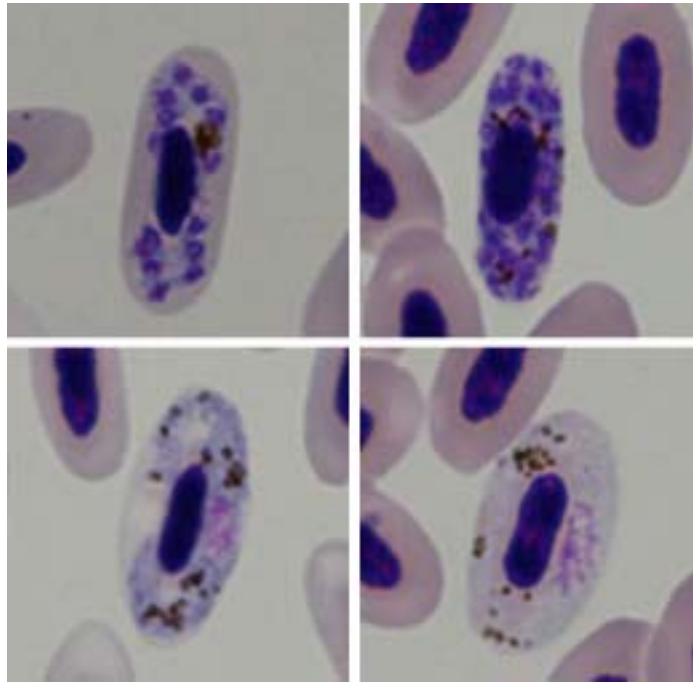


*Plasmodium (Giovannolaia) homocircumflexum* Palinauskas, Žiegytė, Ilgūnas, Iezhova,  
Bernotienė, Bolshakov, Valkiūnas, 2013

**Typical blood stages:**



**Important diagnostic characters of blood stages:**

Morphologically, this parasite is indistinguishable from *P. circumflexum* (these parasites are cryptic species). The cytoplasm in erythrocytic meronts is prominent. Growing meronts are markedly variable both in shape and position in infected erythrocytes. In growing meronts, pigment granules tend to gather close to one of the ends of elongated parasites, often close to the edge. Gametocytes are elongated in shape from early stages of their development; fully-grown gametocytes enclose the nuclei of erythrocyte with their ends completely and finally fill up the infected erythrocytes. Nucleus of gametocyte is prominent, of irregular shape. Micronucleus usually is well visible.

**Mitochondrial cytochrome b sequences:**

COLL4

**Avian hosts and distribution:**

Type avian host – *Lanius collurio*.

Type locality: the Curonian Spit in the Baltic Sea. The lineage COLL4 has been reported in Hungary, and Uruguay. It remains unclear if transmission occurs in Europe, because this infection was found only in adult birds.