

# A New Leech from Papua, Representative of a Third Family of Aquatic Jawed Sanguivores in the Australian Region (Hirudinoidea: Illebdellidae fam. nov.)<sup>1</sup>

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Figure 1

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## ABSTRACT

A new family based on *Illebdella papuensis* gen. et sp. nov. is described. Characters include: body strongly depressed and wide; monostichodont, trignathous; pharynx euthylaematous with single secondary ridges in the dorsolateral positions; epididymis, a globular mass at xi/xii; no sperm ducts or ejaculatory bulbs; median regions, bimyomeric; vagina, caecate; no vaginal duct; ix to xxiv, 5-annulate; xxv, 4-annulate; xxvi, 3-annulate. Pattern, topographic, a wide median band of alternating maculae; a lateral catenulate row of large ovals. *Hirudo catenulata* Johansson 1918 is transferred to the new family and provisionally to the g. *Illebdella*.

## INTRODUCTION

The leech described here is known from a single preserved specimen collected in 1929 at Mount Lamington in the Northern Division of Papua.

It is strongly depressed, with acute flange-like margins. The pattern consists of a median metamericly checkered band, an inner paired longitudinal row of separated short segmental ovals, and an outer paired row of longer segmental ovals linked at the intersomital levels to be catenulate, chain-like.

Form and pattern indicated that this could not be placed in either of the two established families. This is confirmed in the nature of the pharynx and the form of the anterior region of the male paired duct.

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