INCIDENCE STUDY OF SCHISTOSOMIASIS IN EGYPTIAN CHILDREN UTILIZING ETC(U)

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INCIDENCE STUDY OF SCHISTOSOMIASIS IN EGYPTIAN CHILDREN UTILIZING COMBINED CLINICAL, IMMUNOLOGICAL AND PARASITOLOGICAL PARAMETERS

By

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A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF THE PREVALENCE AND MORBIDITY OF SCHISTOSOMIASIS HAEMATOBIUM AND S. MANSONI IN EGYPTIAN CHILDREN

With special reference to the relationship to the irrigation system

Technical Objectives

The prevalence and morbidity of S. haematobium and S. mansoni infection were compared in Egyptian children in matched age groups. The relationship of the prevalence to the irrigation system was investigated as well. It was found to have a lower rate in areas which had till recently a basin system of irrigation, than those with perennial irrigation. The public health implication of this difference is obvious after the construction of the High Dam.

The investigation was carried out on an approximation of 10% of the pediatric age group of the areas examined, with a total of 953 children with S. haematobium and 835 with S. mansoni infection. A cross-sectional study of the prevalence and intensity of both S. haematobium and S. mansoni infections was compared and correlated with morbidity as determined by standard medical examination.
S. mansoni infection as determined by quantitative Kato thick smears had an overall prevalence of 48.3%; the infection was detected as early as 3 years of age.

Diagnosis of S. haematobium infection and determination of its heaviness were done by the Nucleopore technique. The youngest age infected was found to be 9½ months. The general prevalence was 46.5%.

The heaviness of infection was more marked in S. mansoni and in the older age groups. Gastrointestinal symptoms were common with S. mansoni infection and urinary symptoms with S. haematobium. The difference was statistically significant. Hepatosplenomegaly occurred more frequently in those heavily infected with S. mansoni. In the same group, the haemoglobin level and nutritional status were more affected. Associated other parasitic infections were also more prevalent.
**APPROACH**

Schistosomiasis infection has a long history in Egypt dating back to the ancient Egyptian period\(^1\). The ecological concept of schistosomiasis suggests that in most endemic areas men and women of all ages who are in frequent contact with water that contains relatively high densities of cercariae, have a constant uptake of worms i.e. there is an ample opportunity for continual infection\(^2\). Epidemiologic surveys in many endemic areas have revealed that there are peaks of prevalence and intensity of infection in the younger members of the population at risk\(^3,4,5,6\). Infection with *S. haematobium* has been reported to occur in young age as early as 14 month old infants\(^3\). However, the intensity and age-prevalence in an endemic area depends on water contact and exposure pattern. The change of the irrigation system in some parts of Egypt after the construction of Assuan High Dam from basin to perennial, is expected to affect the prevalence of schistosomiasis\(^7\). Most previous epidemiological studies dealt with either *S. mansoni* or *S. haematobium* alone. The present study was carried out in two areas, one in upper Egypt known to be endemic for *S. haematobium* infection and the other in lower Egypt with an endemic
S. mansoni. A cross sectional study of the prevalence in both areas was compared and correlated to morbidity and nutritional status.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The subjects of the present study were chosen from two different areas, Menia governorate in Upper Egypt, known to be endemic for S. haematobium and Menoffia governorate in Lower Egypt with S. mansoni endemicity (Fig. 1.). Menia governorate (2,055,730 individuals) is one of the main governorates of Upper Egypt (Fig. 2) in which irrigation has been recently changed in some of its areas from basin to perennial system after the construction of Asswan High Dam. Four areas were chosen for the study: Towa, Talla, Saft El Khammar and Touch El Kheil. In the first three areas, the system of irrigation is perennial, while in the last one, it has been recently changed from a basin to a perennial system. The population census in these four villages is: 7514, 13683, 7117 and 6235, respectively. The pediatric age group examined (0 to 12 years), constitutes 33.0% of the total population. Menofia governorate (1,710,982 Individuals) lies in Lower Egypt between the two main Nile branches (Fig. 3) with a perennial system of irrigation. Five areas were
studied: Tanbady, Mostay, Beleig, Zoer and Meet Abu Sheiha.

The population census in these areas are

6388, 6753, 4267, 4937, and 4629

respectively. 31.6% of the total population are in the pediatric age group examined (6 months to 12 years).

The areas studied in the two governorates were selected to have the same socioeconomic standards. Most of the inhabitants work as farmers. The housing was mainly constructed of mud and mudbrick, near the agricultural area and canals (Figs 2 & 3).

As a prerequisite to the study, collection of baseline information was made following census and enumeration of each areas' inhabitants. A representative sample from each village was chosen to constitute about 10% of the pediatric age group. The subjects were selected by choosing every tenth house in the village and every tenth name for school children. Due to the free-primary school education which starts at six years, there was no socioeconomic bias in the sampling. A total of 835 children were examined from Menofia governorate. From Menia governorate 953 children were examined from the three areas with perennial irrigation and 200 children from the village which changed its system of irrigation from basin to perennial.
The children were categorized into four age groups (table 1.) Visits were arranged to the health units for clinical and laboratory examination of the first two preschool age groups, while the older two age groups were examined at school. A questionnaire to the child or his mother concerning the major signs or symptoms attributable to schistosoma infection was analysed. Each individual included in the study was then examined for weight, height, mid upper arm muscle circumference and triceps skin fold thickness. The weight/age/height was calculated and compared with standards(8). Complete physical examination was then performed. Hemoglobin was measured by the cyanmethemoglobin method.

Urine and stool samples were then collected. For urine, 2-hour samples following 11 a.m. were collected. Special arrangements were done for young infants to collect urine in plastic bags. This period of collection was chosen because several reports have shown a diurnal cycle in counts of ova in the urine, with the peak near noon(9-13). The collected urine samples were well mixed and 10 ml were used to examine for, and count S. haematobium eggs by the nucleopore technique(14).
For stool examination, a sample was collected from every child after clinical examination. Stool examination and egg count were done by the modified Kato thick smear technique where a 50 mg of feces measured on a volumetric basis were examined (15). This sample was considered a representative one since it was shown that S. mansoni eggs are usually homogenously distributed in stools (16,17). Previous reports stated that statistical analysis showed no significant difference between the readings of one or two samples (15).

The infected children with S. haematobium or S. mansoni were classified on the basis of their egg counts into mild, moderate and heavily infected groups. For S. haematobium eggs, the representative counts for these groups were: 1 to 10, 15 to 30 and 35 or more eggs/ml urine respectively. For S. mansoni the counts were 1 to 75, 100 to 300 and 400 or more eggs/gm feces respectively.

The examined children in Menia governorate were classified into two groups: those from areas with perennial irrigation, and those from the area where the system of irrigation had been recently changed from basin to perennial. The first group was used to evaluate the prevalence and intensity of infection as compared to
children from Menofia governorate, while the second group was used to evaluate the effect of the irrigation system on the prevalence of Schistosoma infection.

RESULTS

In Menia governorate, the general prevalence of S. haematobium among the examined children from areas with old perennial irrigation was 46.5%. In the area with previous basin irrigation, the prevalence was shown to be 6.0%. No S. mansoni eggs were detected in that area. The prevalence of S. haematobium eggs in stools were 2.2% and zero respectively. The youngest infected age was 9.5 months; detected in Towa village. The prevalence increased with age groups (table 2) and the peak was between 8 and 10 years old (Fig. 1).

In Menofia governorate, the general prevalence of S. mansoni infection was 48.3 and the youngest age infected was 3 years. The prevalence of S. haematobium alone in this area was 12.1%, and as a mixed infection with S. mansoni was 6.3%. The peak prevalence for S. mansoni was between 7 and 11 years old. Both sexes were equally affected with S. haematobium and S. mansoni but the prevalence was higher in males than females after 10 years age.
The intensity of infection as graded by egg counts in the different age groups is presented in table 3 where it was found to increase with age. S. mansoni infection was present with a higher intensity specially in the older age groups.

In table 4, associated parasitic infections were present with a high prevalence. The commonest was Entrobius followed by Ascaris and Giardiasis, then H. nana and Ancylostoma. The prevalence of Ancylostoma infection was higher with S. haematobium infection than with S. mansoni, while an inverse relation was observed for Ascaris infection.

The anthropometric measurements and hemoglobin level in infected children of different age groups are presented in table 5. The date shows that it is the hemoglobin level and skin fold thickness which were mainly affected, specially with S. mansoni infection. Cases with S. mansoni infection only or S. haematobium only were included in the comparison of the anthropometric measurements and hemoglobin level. Fixed S. mansoni and S. haematobium were excluded.

Table 6 compares the prevalence of clinical signs and symptoms in children with S. haematobium or S. mansoni infection. Gastrointestinal symptoms were mainly associated with S. mansoni infection, while
urinary symptoms were mainly present with *S. haematobium* infection. The positive clinical findings in infected children (presented as per cent affected), demonstrates the higher prevalence of hepatosplenomaly and deficiency signs with *S. mansoni* than *S. haematobium* infection.

**DISCUSSION**

The endemicity of *S. haematobium* and *S. mansoni*, separately, in two areas of the same geographic distribution offers a unique opportunity to gain comparative information on their prevalence and morbidity. Divergent findings regarding both infections, reflect differences in geographic areas and populations studied. In the current investigation, the pediatric age group was chosen for study as it represents the period of early uncomplicated infection with active oviposition. A cross-sectioned study of the pediatric age group was taken to represent the sequelae of *schistosoma* infection in children. It was proved that a study of an entire population at one instant in time can be substituted for a study of a single age group over an extended period of time provided that the population is susceptible, not migrating and that the forces of infection do not vary significantly. (18) These factors are applicable in the present study.
In Menia governorate, the prevalence of *S. haematobium* differed markedly in areas with old perennial irrigation than in the area which had, till recently, basin irrigation. The latter had a marked lower prevalence, at all age periods (Table 1). Similar but lower prevalences were reported from areas which still have basin irrigation in Egypt (7, 19, 20). In the present study, all areas chosen from Menia governorate had similar socioeconomic status, with the mode of irrigation as the only variable. Such differences confirm the close relation of the system of irrigation to schistosoma prevalence and focus the light on the importance of establishing preventive measures when changing the system of irrigation.

Infection with *S. haematobium* was detected at a younger age period than *S. mansoni* (Fig. 1); *S. haematobium* eggs were detected in an infant 9½ months old, while the earliest infection with *S. mansoni* was detected in a child 3 years old. This difference could be due to the easier technique of collecting urine in plastic bags than stools at that young age, or to the early and more frequent exposures to the river water due to the higher atmospheric temperature in Upper Egypt. *S. mansoni* cercariae were found to take a longer time for complete skin penetration and even can be destroyed if the skin dries naturally before they have
penetrated. The entire process from cercarial skin penetration to oviposition takes three to ten weeks. This means that infection was acquired at seven months old. Infection at that age period is passive depending on the sanitary habits of the mother. The youngest age infected in previous reports was 14 months in Egypt and 2 years in East Africa and in Ibadan, which suggests a high vulnerability to infection at that young age, even with few exposures. Epidemiologic surveys in many endemic areas have revealed that there are peaks of prevalence and intensity of infection in the younger members of the population at risk. The prevalence of S. haematobium infection in the present survey had an earlier peak than S. mansoni infection, while the latter showed a more sharp rise (Fig. 1). In many endemic areas peak prevalence of infection occurs between 10 and 20 years of age, and declines thereafter for S. haematobium while in S. mansoni there is little decline. In Egypt the peak prevalence for S. haematobium infection was found between 8 and 10 years. Sociologic factors and water contact govern schistosomiasis infection. Water contact is by far most frequent and of longest duration in children. In Egyptian males it was shown that bathing and swimming, particularly for children up to 10 years of age, constituted 50% of total
activity in water (25) and is one of the most important activities causing infection with schistosomiasis (7). In Rhodesia it was shown that the age groups with the most exposure to water were the 4-6 and 16-25 years old (26). In Puerto Rico it was stated that children of school age had the most water contact of any group, and that play activities accounted for 51% of exposure to water (27). A very close correlation was found between observed contact with water and the age-prevalence of infection with S. mansoni (28). Furthermore, exposure experiments point to that there is a threshold concentration of cercariae below which there is virtually no infection (24, 29). In Egypt, it was found that the rate of infection of snails with S. mansoni (0.65%) was higher than that with S. haematobium (0.15%) (30). This high infectivity rate may explain the sharp rise and higher peak of S. mansoni infection (Fig. 1). Socioeconomic factors were unified in the present study in the two areas examined as all the cases were children of farmers and school students. Since primary-school education is free in Egypt, there was no socioeconomic bias in the two samples.

In a previous study on the prevalence of S. haemato-
tobium, it was found that the children of traders had a lower prevalence than children of farmers (3). Ethnic
and religious practices were found to affect the transmission of schistosomiasis\(^{(7,25,31)}\). These factors have minimal influence on the pediatric age group under consideration. The effect of sex on the prevalence was evident only after 10 years of age where males continued to have a higher prevalence. This difference was also observed in children\(^{(29)}\) and in older age groups\(^{(7)}\). Boys have more freedom, specially after the age of 6-7 years, than girls to swim in canals and to go to fields. This habit helps them to acquire re-infection. In Egypt, it was suggested that the life span for \(S.\) mansoni worms in the body is 3.5 years and for \(S.\) haematobium is 3.8 years\(^{(30)}\). Egyptian workers moving to a nonendemic area were found to lose their infection in about four and half years\(^{(32)}\). These observations are in concordance with our results, where after a 3 to 4 years period of changing the habit of swimming, girls showed a lower prevalence than boys of the same age group.

The intensity of infection (measured by egg excretion counts), increased with age. It was higher in \(S.\) mansoni infection, than in \(S.\) haematobium. Other reports on \(S.\) haematobium in children, in Egypt and in Nigeria gave comparable results\(^{(3,29)}\). The intensity of infection was repeatedly reported to correlate with egg counts\(^{(15,33)}\).
For S. mansoni eggs, it was shown that they have random distribution in feces\(^{(16,17)}\) so that a single sample taken from a single fecal specimen will provide a reasonable estimate of fecal egg count\(^{(15)}\). For S. haematobium eggs, the diurnal cycle in ova counts in urine\(^{(10,11,12,13,29,34)}\) was shown to have a peak at about 12 o'clock noon. The higher intensity with increasing age suggests a continuous infection with increasing worm burden and egg excretion counts. This continuous infection depends on the water contact and on the levels of cercariae in water. For S. mansoni the rate of infection of snails in Egypt was found to be 0.65% and that for S. haematobium 0.16%\(^{(30)}\).

The discharge of cercariae has a diurnal variation which usually coincides with the swimming period of children in canals. The cercarial output reaches its peak at about 11:00 AM-1:00 PM and can be infective for 20 hr, unless destroyed by water turbulence by animal or plant life\(^{(35)}\).

It was suggested that water contact represents the single most important human activity that may be directly related to the intensity of infection, and consequently, severity of disease\(^{(24,28,36)}\).

Associated parasitic infections were found in a high percentage of all age groups, with both S. mansoni and S. haematobium infection (table 4). In S. haematobium
infection, *Ancylostoma* had a higher prevalence than with *S. mansoni* and *Ascaris* had the reverse relation. This difference is related to the geographic distribution of the parasites, where it is known that *Ascaris* eggs need a more humid soil than *Ancylostoma* and so is more prevalent in lower Egypt. This high prevalence of mixed parasitic infections is related to the hygienic and sanitary habits of the patients.

The anthropometric measurements and hemoglobin determination were generally slightly affected, more with *S. mansoni* than *S. haematobium* infection in comparable age groups (table 5). These results concur with other investigations on children infected with *S. haematobium* and *S. mansoni*, where they were only affected in heavily infected children. Exceptions were cases associated with *Ancylostoma* infection where the hemoglobin levels were markedly lowered and the general health affected. Hookworm infection is always associated with blood loss and marked anemia. Higher intensity of *S. mansoni* infection may lead to more blood loss and higher morbidity in infected children. Dysenteric symptoms and blood-streaked stools were commonly reported with *S. mansoni* infection in children and adults. Furthermore, *S. mansoni* eggs deposited in the tissues were found to produce greater tissue damage and morbidity than *S. haematobium* eggs.
Gastrointestinal symptoms in the form of dysentry, diarrhea and abdominal colic were the commonest manifestations with *S. mansoni* infection, while haematuria and dysuria were associated with *S. haematobium* infection. In Brazil, intermittent diarrhea was present in more than 50% of *S. mansoni* infected patients \(^{(51)}\). In Puerto Rico \(^{(53)}\) and in St. Lucian *S. mansoni* patients \(^{(42)}\), 50% of patients complained of abdominal pain. In Egypt, dysentry, abdominal distension and colicky pain were reported to be frequent in *S. mansoni* infection \(^{(39,40)}\), while hematuria and dysuria in *S. haematobium* infected children \(^{(3)}\). Bouts of diarrhea with blood were reported in Panyagoro, Uganda \(^{(41)}\). General weakness was a common complaint with *S. mansoni* infection (table 6) while it was less frequent with *S. haematobium* infection. This complaint was almost always associated with dysenteric symptoms or hepatosplenomegaly. In St. Lucian schistosomiasis *mansoni* patients, weakness was present in 32% of the examined cases \(^{(42)}\), while it was present at moderate levels in infected children of the same locality \(^{(37)}\). In *S. haematobium* infection, it was only noticed with heavy infection \(^{(3)}\).

Hepatomegaly or hepatosplenomegaly occurred with statistically greater frequency, mainly among heavily and
moderately S. mansoni infected children than among those with S. haematobium infection. S. mansoni eggs retained in the host tissues have been shown to be a more potent polygenic agent than S. haematobium eggs, since they produce greater tissue damage (43). Hepatomegaly is one of the prominent signs of the disease (44, 45, 46) and is related to the host immune response to schistosome eggs in the liver. Significant hepatomegaly was associated with heavy infection in St. Lucian children (37). It was also related to heavy infections in Uganda (5) and in Kenya (15). In the lightly infected group, there was no significant difference between S. mansoni and S. haematobium infected children which suggest that heavy infection is a factor in revealing the high polygenic effect of S. mansoni eggs. Controlled studies did not show difference between uninfected and mildly infected groups as far as enlarged livers (37, 47). Pathologic (48) and experimental (49) studies suggest that light infections even of some duration may be of little clinical significance. Splenomegaly has not been clearly associated with the intensity of infection in many previous reports, because of the endemicity of malaria. In the present study malaria was not endemic, and splenomegaly was closely related to hepatomegaly, and both to high intensity of S. mansoni infection. Association
of splenomegaly with *S. mansoni* infection was reported in Brazil \(^{50}\), in St. Lucia \(^{37}\) and in Kenya \(^{15}\). Splenomegaly and hepatomegaly were present at a lower frequency in heavily *S. haematobium* infected children (table 6). Similar findings were previously reported \(^{3}\). None of the subjects in the current study was found to have jaundice, ascites, or advanced liver disease manifestations. These manifestations were reported to be uncommon in St. Lucien infected children \(^{37}\).

In addition to demonstrating the prevalence of *S. mansoni* and *S. haematobium* in Egyptian children and the close relation of the irrigation system to schistosoma prevalence, this study is unique in comparing the prevalence and intensity of infection for both schistosoma species in matched age groups of children of the same geographic distribution. *S. mansoni* infection was detected at older ages than *S. haematobium*. It has a more sharp rise in prevalence with age, and a more ill effects on the general health of the patients. Hepatosplenomegaly and high morbidity were directly related to egg excretion. The public health implications of the current study are obvious. The high prevalence in children indicate that this is the age group of the population which is at risk. The bad
effects of *S. mansoni* infection on the general health of children, together with recent reports on increased prevalence after the construction of the High Dam is worth consideration. Measurement of intensity of infection provides valuable information for the expected morbidity.

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Prevalence of Schistosomiasis (%)

- S. haematobium
- S. mansoni

Age (years)
Table 1: Prevalence of S. haematobium in the areas with previously basin and previously perennial irrigation.

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Age groups (yrs)</th>
<th>Previously basin</th>
<th>Previously Perennial</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No. examined</td>
<td>% infected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0 - 3</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 - 6</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 - 9</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>9.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 - 12</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>8.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>6.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The difference in the absolute numbers are statistically significant \( P < 0.01 \)
Table 2: Prevalence of *S. haematobium* and *S. mansoni* in the examined children.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age groups (yrs)</th>
<th><em>S. haematobium</em></th>
<th></th>
<th><em>S. mansoni</em></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No. examined</td>
<td>% infected</td>
<td>No. examined</td>
<td>% infected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-3</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>0.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>4-6</td>
<td>206</td>
<td>36.9</td>
<td>187</td>
<td>31.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7-9</td>
<td>318</td>
<td>63.2</td>
<td>313</td>
<td>65.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-12</td>
<td>282</td>
<td>56.7</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>63.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>953</strong></td>
<td><strong>46.5</strong></td>
<td><strong>835</strong></td>
<td><strong>48.3</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>59.3</td>
<td>63.7</td>
<td>66.0</td>
<td>69.3</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>8.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40.4 - 49.0</td>
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<td>0.4</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>8.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49.0 - 58.4</td>
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<td>0.4</td>
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<td>8.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85.1 - 95.1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>8.1</td>
</tr>
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**Table 3**: Intensity of infection in S. haemocytum and S. mansoni per age (yr) groups.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>$H = S \cdot $emanonl interaction</th>
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<th>$H = S \cdot $hematothrom interaction</th>
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<td>6.9</td>
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<td>0.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>6.9</td>
<td>35.3</td>
<td>28.9</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>6.9</td>
<td>9.8</td>
<td>2.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>19.6</td>
<td>6.9</td>
<td>5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>12.7</td>
<td>2.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>6.9</td>
<td>35.3</td>
<td>28.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Table 4: Parasitic infections in children infected with S. hematothrom or S. emanonl.*
Cases with anticoagulant injection were excluded.

**Standards for weight / height: those of WHO Monograph (6)**

*Protocol Study (7)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Arm Circumference</th>
<th>Skin Fold Thickness</th>
<th>Weight / Height</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>87.9</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>96.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85.2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>90.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>96.2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>96.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Silverman's E / 100 ml</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>97.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intensity of Injection</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Heavy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mild</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 5: Anthropometric measurements and hematoglobin levels of Group mean values (percent)

- **Note:** Standards for hematoglobin, arm circumference, and skin fold thickness are taken from a *Protocol Study (7)* only.
Table 6: Clinical Signs and symptoms in children infected with *S.*haematobium or *S.*mansoni.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clinical signs and symptoms</th>
<th>% affected</th>
<th>Statistical significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>S. haematobium</td>
<td>S. mansoni</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dysentry</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diarrhea &amp; abdominal colic</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dysurea</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haematuria</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General weakness</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pallor</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Signs of avitaminosis</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hepatosplenomegaly</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ascitis</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>