
Prevalence of fascioliasis among children with hepatomegaly in Matruh Governorate

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present study was performed in Pediatric Department , Matruh Faculty of Medicine , Matruh University. 50 children (33 males and 17 females) were chosen from those attending the out-and inpatient clinics of Pediatrics at Matruh University Hospital . The selected cases were below 14 years and showed hepatomegaly on preliminary examination . All the cases were subjected to complete clinical examination , stool analysis , blood analysis and their sera were isolated for immunological test (I.H.A) and then, the gained data were recorded . The results of this work were presented in figures and tables and the conventional statistical methods were used for their analysis . The results were as follows: _ The mean age of males in the studied cases with hepatomegaly was 5.9 years (\pm 2.6) whereas the mean age of females in these cases was 5.5 years (\pm 3.5) . _ Among all the studied cases with hepatomegaly, 3 cases were infected with Fasciola (6%) , all of them (100%) were males having a mean age 7.3 years (\pm 2.1). _ Fasciola infection was prevalent in the age groups: 4-8 years (33.3%) and over 8 years (66.7%). _ Clinically, all cases (100%) had a triad of fever , pallor and tender hepatomegaly with occasional vomiting (33.3%) and jaundice (33.3%). _ Haematologically , infected cases had a mean haemoglobin value 5.8 gm/dl (\pm 1.3) and eosinophilic percent 77% (\pm 1.5) . -56- _ Stool examination of the studied cases with hepatomegaly revealed: _ No parasites in 19 cases (38%) . _ Only Fasciola in 3 cases (6%) . _ Other parasites in 28 cases (56%) . _ The validity of stool examination techniques in detecting Fasciola eggs, compared to I.H.A , was as follows: zero % for floatation (zinc sulphate) technique , 33.3% for the 3 successive stool examinations and 100% for formol - ether sedimentation and merthiolate iodine formaldehyde concentration techniques. CONCLUSION : 1- Human fascioliasis becomes a new parasitic health problem among Egyptian children. 2- This disease should be suspected in any child having fever, pallor and tender hepatomegaly, particularly when the blood picture reveals anaemia and marked eosinophilia.