

Enteroparasites in children and adolescents of a periurban community in the province of cordoba [Enteroparásitos en niños y adolescentes de una comuna periurbana de la provincia de Córdoba]

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Resumen

The objective of the present investigation was to detect and characterize enteroparasites in children and adolescents of the community Los Cedros in the province of Cordoba. Parasites were detected in 111 individuals (6 months to 21 years old) by: macroscopic and microscopic examination (direct and Willis and Ritchie concentration methods) and anal swabs (Graham method). The prevalence of parasites was 74% without significant association between women and men (51% vs. 49%). Children from 5 to 11 years of age evidenced the greatest percentages of parasitosis (61%). The species identified were: Enterobius vermicularis (54%), Blastocystis hominis (52%), Giardia lamblia (28%), Entamoeba coli (17%), Endolimax nana (10%), Chilomastix mesnili (2%), Iodamoeba bütschlii (2%) and Hymenolepis nana (5%). The prevalence of monoparasitosis and poliparasitosis was 44% and 56%, respectively, without any significant association with age and sex. In children and adolescents with poliparasitosis, the most frequent combinations were: Enterobius vermicularis/Blastocystis hominis and Enterobius vermicularis/ Giardia lamblia. In conclusion, this study determined a high prevalence of enteroparasites in children and adolescents of this periurban community in the province of Cordoba that could help to establish and to consolidate control programs and epidemiological surveillance.

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