

Treatment of *D. fragilis* and *Enterobius vermicularis* coinfection patients

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Objective:

✓We evaluate the influence of *E. vermicularis* and its treatment in the eradication of *D. fragilis* infection

Material and Methods

✓A prospective, descriptive research was performed in all *D. fragilis* infected-patients attending at Tropical Medicine Unit of HUCA between January 2012- January 2016.

✓*D. fragilis* were detected in three concentrated stool samples, previously extracted by using a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) (Stark et al., 2005).

✓A pinworm test was performed in stool samples of all patients with *D. fragilis*

✓Patients who failed to deliver one or more samples or had received anti-parasitic treatment in the previous six months or were infected by other parasites different to *E. vermicularis* were excluded.

✓All patients were treated with metronidazole 25-35 mg/kg/day in three doses. Patients with *E. vermicularis* coinfection and/or an *E. vermicularis*-positive case in the family were treated with mebendazole 100 mg/12 hours during three days.

✓*D. fragilis* PCR and pinworm test in three stool samples, were performed four and eight weeks after the end of the treatment.

✓Qualitative variables were compared using the χ^2 test, the Fisher exact test, when necessary. For quantitative variables, the Student t test for non paired variables or the Mann-Whitney U test were used.

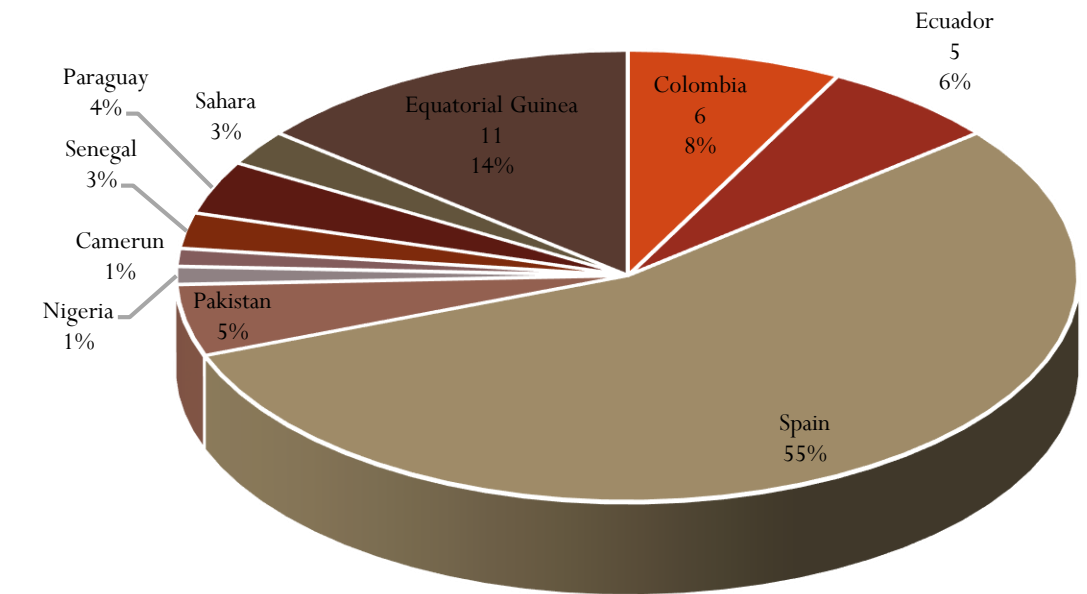
✓Significance was designated at $p < 0.05$. Multivariate analysis was performed using logistic regression (enter method) to identify variables that showed an independent association with the treatment failure

POPULATION

70 patients, (44% immigrants, 62% male, average age 32 [19] years).
Twenty-one patients were children under 14 years old

Parameter	Cure N=69	Non-Cure N= 9	P value	OR
Demographic Characteristics				
Sex (M/F)	35/34	5/4	0.533	-
Age	32[22]	33[16]	0.004	-
Epidemiological Characteristics				
Animals	12/57	0/9	0.203	-
Rural/Urban	26/43	4/5	0.480	-
E. vermicularis (yes/no)				
Family with <i>E. vermicularis</i>	21/48	7/2	0.009	6.66[2.85-33.29]
Symptoms (Yes/No)				
Abdominal pain	22/47	2/7	0.434	-
Diarrhea	6/63	2/7	0.229	-
Pruritus	1/68	0/9	0.882	-
Asymptomatic Yes/No	29/40	4/5	0.581	-
Eosinophilia	615[1242]	329[438]	0.108	-

Countries of origin



(36.4%) patients were coinfecting by *Enterobius vermicularis*.

All patients were treated with metronidazole, 88.3% of them (33 in the immigrant group and 35 in the non-immigrant group) were cured and the rest have microbiological relapses.

The curation was associated with the] and the absence of coinfection by *E. vermicularis* ($p=0.020$, OR 0.154 [0.029-0.808]).

The multivariable analysis confirm the lower rate of curation in presence of *E. vermicularis* ($p=0.032$)

Conclusions

E. vermicularis has been associated to transmission of *D. fragilis*. Our results support the hypothesis that coinfection with *E. vermicularis* may act as a factor favoring *D. fragilis* infection by preventing eradication measures and suggest that both parasites may be treated simultaneously.