

Anthelmintic

Anthelmintics or antihelminthics are a group of antiparasitic drugs that expel parasitic worms and other internal parasites from the body by either stunning or killing them and without causing significant damage to the host. They may also be called vermifuges or vermicides.

Indications

Neurocysticercosis: (praziquantel or albendazole)

Ocular toxocariasis

Ocular toxocariasis (OT) is a zoonotic **infection** caused by larval stages of *Toxocara canis* and *T. cati*. The current review and meta-analysis aimed to evaluate the global prevalence of OT. Methods: Five English (**PubMed**, **Scopus**, **ScienceDirect**, **Web of Science**, and **Google Scholar**) databases were explored and 101 articles met the inclusion criteria.

The pooled **prevalence** (95% confidence interval) of OT was higher in immunological studies (9%. 6-12%) than in studies that applied ophthalmic examination (1%. 1-2%). The **lower middle income country** had the highest prevalence (6%. 2-12%) as well as the African region (10%. 7-13%). The highest infection rate (4%. 2-7%) was detected in the 1-25 mean age group.

Regular **anthelmintic** treatment of cats and dogs, and removal of animal feces from public places must be considered ¹⁾.

Zhang F, Li Y, Zhang H, Huang E, Gao L, Luo W, Wei Q, Fan J, Song D, Liao J, Zou Y, Liu F, Liu J, Huang J, Guo D, Ma C, Hu X, Li L, Qu X, Chen L, Yu X, Zhang Z, Wu T, Luu HH, Haydon RC, Song J, He TC, Ji P. Anthelmintic mebendazole enhances cisplatin's effect on suppressing cell proliferation and promotes differentiation of head and neck squamous cell carcinoma (HNSCC). *Oncotarget*. 2017 Feb 21;8(8):12968-12982. doi: 10.18632/oncotarget.14673. PubMed PMID: 28099902; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC5355070.

¹⁾

Badri M, Eslahi AV, Olfatifar M, Dalvand S, Houshmand E, Abdoli A, Majidiani H, Eslami A, Zibaei M, Johkool MG, Taghipour A, Hashemipour S. Keys to Unlock the Enigma of Ocular Toxocariasis: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis. *Ocul Immunol Inflamm*. 2021 Apr 28:1-12. doi: 10.1080/09273948.2021.1875007. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 33909531.

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