

عنوان مقاله:

The Prevalence of some Intestinal Parasites in Food-Handlers of Asian and African Countries: A Meta-Analysis

محل انتشار:

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تعداد صفحات اصل مقاله: 9

نویسندگان:

Aziz Kassani - *Department of Epidemiology, School of Health, Shiraz University of medical sciences, Shiraz, Iran*

Mohsen Shaterian - *Department of Sociology, School of Humanities, University of Kashan, Kashan, Iran*

Gholamreza Sharifirad - *Public Health Department, School of Health, Qom University of medical sciences, Qom, Iran*

Rostam Menati - *Department of Sociology, School of Humanities, University of Kashan, Kashan, Iran- Prevention of Psychosocial Injuries Research Center, Ilam university of Medical Sciences, Ilam, Iran*

خلاصه مقاله:

Background & Aims of the Study: Parasitic infections are common in many countries, especially in developing countries and tropical areas. People who deal with foods can be a threat to health of communities. This meta-analysis study was undertaken to determine the prevalence of parasitic infections, such as *Ascaris lumbricoides*, *Entamoeba coli*, *Entamoeba histolytica*, and *Giardia lamblia*, among the food staff in Asian and African countries. **Materials & Methods:** We systematically searched Pubmed, Embase, Cochran library, Proquest, Scopus, and Springer databases. In this meta-analysis, only the cross-sectional studies conducted from 1970 to October 2013 were selected. After searching by the main keywords, 23 papers were found that after applying the inclusion criteria, 11 articles remained. I² and T² coefficients were used to find heterogeneity in the studies. Then, random effect model was applied for data analysis by Stata-12 software. **Results:** The pooled effect size, T², and I² for *E. coli* were 0.041 (CI 95%: 0.009-0.073), 0.004, and 88.9%, respectively. For *A. lumbricoides*, the pooled effect size was 0.017 (CI 95%: 0.012-0.022), T² was 0.002, and I² was 87.2%. These measures were respectively obtained as 0.026 (CI 95%: 0.014-0.038), 0.003, and 88.5% for *E. histolytica*. Ultimately, the pooled effect size, T², and I² for *G. lamblia* were 0.033 (CI 95%: 0.022-0.044), 0.004, and 85.7%, respectively. **Conclusions:** The prevalence rate of some intestinal parasites was relatively low in the food-handlers in Asian and African countries compared to the previous studies. Also, high heterogeneity was obtained regarding the prevalence rate in these countries.

کلمات کلیدی:

Meta-analysis Intestinal parasites Food-handler

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