ISSN 1300 - 6320

Türkiye Parazitol Derg

Türkiye Parazitoloji Dergisi

Cilt / Volume 34 | Ek / Supplement 1 | Yıl / Year 2010



Fourth International Conference On Phthiraptera

Urgup / Turkey

Dergi, Türkiye Parazitoloji Derneği'nin Yayın Organıdır. Published by Turkish Society for Parasitology

H 05.
The efficacy of seasonal dry combing for head lice (*Pediculus humanus capitis*) in children from Manisa province, Turkey

I. Cüneyt BALCIOĞLU[1], Özgür KURT[2], M. Emin LIMONCU[3], V. Özge ERMİŞ[4], Tuba TABAK[1], Tuba OYUR[5], Hasan MUSLU[4], Hakan KAVUR[6], Serhan GÖRGÜN[4], Nogay GIRGINKARDESLER[1], Cemal BİLAÇ[7], Yusuf ÖZBEL[8]

[1]Celal Bayar University School of Medicine Department of Parasitology, Manisa, Turkey; [2]Celal Bayar University School of Science and Letters Department of Biology, Manisa, Turkey; [3]Celal Bayar University Vocational School of Health Sciences, Manisa, Turkey; [4]MSc Student, Celal Bayar University, School of Science and Letters Department of Biology Manisa, Turkey; [5]Graduate Student, Celal Bayar University, School of Science and Letters Department of Biology Manisa, Turkey; [6]PhD Student, Ege University Science Faculty, Department of Zoology, Izmir, Turkey; [7]Celal Bayar University School of Medicine Department of Dermatology, Manisa, Turkey; [8]Ege University School of Medicine Department of Parasitology, Izmir, Turkey

Infestation caused by the human head louse, *Pediculus humanus capitis*, is one of the most common infestations of school children in Turkey. The head lice are generally detected by parents or local family physicians when children have been complaining, e.g., of continuous itching of the scalp. The aim of the present study was to screen the same population of school children in two villages of Manisa province, namely Osmancalı and Maldan, at regular time periods. In the school of Osmancalı village, there are almost 400 registered children, aged between 6-15 years, coming from 20 small neighboring villages. In the second school, in Maldan village, 130 children, mainly living in this remote community and also from a few adjacent farms were included in the study. The children in both schools were screened for head lice four times using a PDC louse comb during the months of May and November of 2008 and 2009. The total number of examinations were 2,091: 1,565 in Osmancalı and 526 in Maldan). The data were analysed SPSS® v.15 program using CHAID and logistic regression analysis. The infestation rate of girls was significantly higher than that of boys ($p<0.001$) and enrollment to school in Osmancalı was a significant risk factor for boys ($p=0.002$). In addition, periodic examinations and treatments lowered the infestation rates among girls significantly ($p=0.001$). We conclude that periodic examination of school children for head lice is essential for the control of this common infestation.

<drcbal@yahoo.com>