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Relation between bronchial asthma and parasitic (nematodes) infection in Egyptian children

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Background: Among the many factors influencing the prevalence of asthma in developing countries from the tropics are geo-helminthic infections.

Aims: This work aims to study the relation between bronchial asthma and parasitic infestation in Egyptian children.

Patients and Methods: A cross-section, analytical study design was chosen to perform this research on 100 school aged children. All children were interviewed and examined clinically and laboratory.

Results: Statistically significantly negative correlations were found between blood level of IgE and FEV1% of predicted in patients with bronchial asthma as well as patients with parasitic infestation with $r=-0.381$, -0.325 at $p=0.006$, 0.021 respectively. Inverse relationship was found between blood level of IgE and FEV1/FVC% in patients with parasitic infestation with $r=-0.358$ with statistical significant difference at $p=0.011$.

Conclusions: 86% of patients with bronchial asthma lived in urban areas, while 64% of patients with parasitic infestation lived in rural areas.

Recommendation: Improving personal and environmental hygiene and regular screening, treatment and health education for children as regard parasitic infections is recommended.

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