

BOOK REVIEW

The monograph “Toxocariasis – Current Issue of the Medical and Sanitary Services”

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The author: **Gheorghe Placinta**, MD, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Infectious Diseases Nicolae Testemitsanu State University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Chisinau, the Republic of Moldova

Human toxocariasis is a major medical-social problem with global spread, but still remains one of the most misunderstood parasitic invasion in humans, with complex and difficult problems of modern infectology and the entire public health and medical service.

The research and the author's own experience over 15 years in this field have made it possible to identify the factors resulting in the high degree of toxocariasis invasion; and has been developed the management algorithm.

The writing is exposed on 240 pages with affirmative material presented in 49 tables, 44 figures, 12 clinical cases, 4 annexes, and a bibliography citing 340 scientific sources.

The work begins with **Introduction** where is elucidated the actuality of the subject studied and are outlined the purpose and objectives of this research.

In the first chapter is analyzed the complex vision in the evolution of toxocariasis according to current literature. There are presented epidemiological aspects and trends in the world, the factors identifying increased degrees of infestation. The pathogenic specificity, complemented by modern explorations and multiplicity of clinical manifestations are analyzed. The need for further studies on toxocariasis and the accumulation of new data in diagnosis, therapy, and prevention are highlighted.

Chapter II describes the general design of the research, the characteristics of the patients' lots, the methods of research and statistical processing. In the study were included: 99 healthy people; 12,637 patients with various pathologies; 1166 patients toxocariasis supervised for a period from 3 to 15, 944 soil samples, and 1459 dogs' samples which have been checked to detect the presence of *T. canis* eggs, with statistical processing of the incidence of the most common helminthiasis between 2006 and 2015.

The third chapter is devoted to the identification of the factors that influence the increased toxocariasis seroprevalence in the Republic of Moldova, which is one of the highest in the world - 58.8%, with growth rate in the last 10 years of 37.2%, with prevalence of the mature individuals compared to children. The results of the study showed a strong inverse correlation ($r_{xy} = -0.785 \pm 0.017$) between the age and the proportion of seropositive results in *T. canis*. Direct correlation between peak levels of toxocariasis antibody levels, addressability and admission ($P < 0.05$) was determined.

Chapter IV reflects the magnitude and the totality of clinical manifestations in the acute, subacute and chronic form that counts over 50 clinical signs. The author has shown that in the acute evolution of toxocariasis the larvae migrans visceralis syndrome manifests only in 21.1% cases, while in 78.9% at the very onset sets occult form.

The probability of healing in the acute form is only 2.3%. Children in 58.8% do not form post-vaccine immunity. The evolution differences in toxocariasis with mono-invasion and toxocariasis with different comorbidities are clear, with a clearly superior prevalence of toxocariasis injury versus associated parasitoses. Effectiveness of specific medication is demonstrated.

Chapter V establishes clinical and laboratory determinants in the different evolution of chronic toxocariasis. Thus, early cure in the first year of monitoring and timely therapy only occurs in 5.5%. Evolution by exacerbation occurs in 5.0% of cases. All factors that contribute to exacerbation, remission, stagnant development are determined. The patho-invasive actions in the establishment of hepatic cytolysis and leukopenia and the immunodeficiency states are demonstrated.

The results in **chapter six** identify the differences in the evolution of toxocariasis established over a 10-year surveillance period. Assay indicators in time healing, serological sequelae, latent and leaps evolution are determined. It considers the significance of different treatment regimens, the utility of repeated treatments. The algorithm of conduct was developed in each case separately.

The work ends with conclusions and recommendations. The author has shown that toxocariasis presents an important medical and social problem of national interest, which requires the efforts of the whole society in diminishing the morbidity with strategic, multisectoral involvement, with a complex, lasting program. The data resulting in a very high seroprevalence, different manifestations (over 50 signs), often discrete, unexplainable, with exaggerated costs in expensive investigations, require from the very beginning the serological screening of toxocariasis for all patients hospitalized in different medical-sanitary departments in the Republic of Moldova. This will allow an early diagnosis with a considerable cost reduction.

The work fully complies with the requirements, is elaborated by a thorough study, with multifactorial analysis, with recommendations addressed to the public-health services, offering distinct management solutions for practicing physicians and doctors of different specialties, as well as to all those interested in this pathology and may be recommended for publishing.

Victor Pantea, MD, PhD, Professor
Department of Infectious Diseases
Nicolae Testemitsanu State University of Medicine and Pharmacy
Chisinau, the Republic of Moldova

