

Treatment of human chronic fascioliasis with triclabendazole: Drug efficacy and serologic response

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Between November 1990 and March 1992, 24 asymptomatic individuals in Chile with chronic hepatic fascioliasis confirmed by the presence of *Fasciola hepatica* eggs in feces were treated with a single oral dose of triclabendazole (10 mg/kg of body weight) after an overnight fast. Nineteen (79.2%) of 24 patients were egg-negative two months after treatment. Three of five cases with *F. hepatica* in feces after the first treatment were retreated and parasitologic cure was achieved. Tolerance to the drug was excellent; none of the patients had either secondary symptoms or important alterations in levels of aspartate and amino transferases, alkaline phosphatase, or bilirubin during or after treatment. Mild eosinophilia, present in 70% of the cases, persisted at least until 60 days after treatment. An enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) was highly effective in diagnosis and post-treatment monitoring. Before treatment, 20 (83.3%) of 24 confirmed cases had positive test results. The test re