THE EPIDEMIOLOGICAL PROFILE OF THE CORRELATION BETWEEN SCHISTOSOMIASIS AND BLADDER NEOPLASMS IN BRAZIL'S NORTHEAST REGION (2017-2023)

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Introduction

In Brazil, it is estimated that 2.5 to 6 million people are infected with schistosomiasis and that 25 million live in areas at risk for contracting it (1,2). The most affected areas are characterized by poor sanitary conditions, poverty, and low education levels, especially in the Northeast and Southeast regions (1). Some of the evidence that supports the association between schistosomiasis and bladder cancer includes geographical correlation (3). Thus, this study aims to sketch the epidemiological profile of the correlation between schistosomiasis and bladder neoplasms in Brazil's Northeast region between 2017 and 2023.

Methods

The present cross-sectional observational study was conducted through the search for data regarding the number of authorized hospitalizations for schistosomiasis and bladder neoplasms registered in the Hospital Information System of the Brazilian Unified National Health System (SIH/SUS) from November 2017 through November 2023 in Brazil's Northeast region. The variables analyzed were: age group, sex, and race.

Results

From 2017 to 2023, 484 cases of schistosomiasis were notified in the Northeast region. Concerning age groups, individuals between 60 and 69 years old were the most stricken by the parasite, with 86 (18%) hospitalizations. Also, males registered 252 (52%) admissions, the highest percentage in the region. As to race, multiracial subjects were the most affected by schistosomiasis, with 302 (62%) entries. In the same referred time frame, 18.346 cases of bladder neoplasms were registered. Regarding age, individuals between 70 and 79 years old represented the biggest percentage of hospitalizations, with 5.682 (31%), followed by 60 to 69-year-olds, with 5.439 (30%). In this case, males represented the most admissions, with 12.514 (68%) entries for bladder neoplasms. In relation to race, multiracial subjects totalized 13.049 (71%) notifications.

Conclusion

Finally, the epidemiological profile of the correlation between schistosomiasis and bladder neoplasms in Brazil's Northeast region is composed of multiracial males from 60 to 69 years old. It is worth noting that this body of work is based on secondary data and has inherent limitations, such as under-notification.

References

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