

International Surgery and Ortho Conference

October 25-26, 2017 | Toronto, Canada

Albendazole therapy in human lung and liver hydatid cysts: A 13-year experience

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Background: Cystic echinococcosis (CE) is an endemic disease in Iran. This study has aimed to report the efficacy of Albendazole therapy in patients with CE.

Method: Among 164 patients with echinococcosis, who were referred to the surgery clinic, Ghaem hospital, Mashhad University of Medical Sciences between 2001 and 2013, two were diagnosed with alveolar echinococcosis (AE) and 162 with CE; 43 of whom underwent surgery. The rest 119 patients received medical therapy by Albendazole 15 mg/kg/day for three phases. Each phase included six weeks of Albendazole therapy followed by two weeks of no medication. The patients were classified according to radiologic evaluations into four groups: Cured, improved, unchanged and worsened or relapsed.

Results: Patients who completed more phases had significantly greater chances of better response. Of the 56 patients who completed all three phases, 37 (66.1%) were cured, 15 (26.8%) improved, 4 (7.1%) remained unchanged, and none worsened or relapsed. [Odds ratio (OR):4.78, 95% confidence interval (CI): 2.95-7.74, P< .0001].

Speaker Biography

Fattahi Masoom S H has obtained his specialty in General Surgery from Mashhad University of Medical Sciences, Iran, in July 1985. He is passionate about Thoracic Surgery, he continued his Sub-Specialty in it from May 1996 to June 1998. He has attended a Thoracic Surgery specialty program in Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard University, USA, for 6 months in 2006. To this day, he has been a Member of Iranian Medical Council since 1979 and Academic Board Member of Ghaem Hospital as a Professor, since 1985, where he operates and visits patients in Thorax Surgery Ward and Thorax Walk-In Clinic..

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