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Introduction

Leptospirosis is a major public health problem in Sri Lanka. Clinical presentation of leptospirosis has been shown to vary in different geographical locations and outbreaks, which could be associated with the infecting strain. Further differential diagnosis in a resource poor setting is challenging. Due to the highly endemic nature of the disease, and associated morbidity and mortality it is important to investigate the molecular epidemiology at different time frames and the usefulness of rapid diagnostic testing in a resource poor setting.

Fernando GIC1415066

Helicobacter pylori, risk factors and resistance to clarithromycin among dyspeptic patients in Sri Lanka

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Abstract

Infection with *H. pylori* is considered a major cause of chronic gastritis, peptic ulcer disease and gastric cancer. More than half of-

	<p>the world population is infected with <i>H. pylori</i> and a 70% prevalence has been reported from Sri Lanka. Due to the difficulty in culture and Antibiotic Susceptibility Testing in the laboratory, it is treated empirically using clarithromycin as part of the triple therapy. The resistance to these antibiotics in Sri Lanka are not known. Thus it is of paramount importance to determine the clarithromycin resistance of <i>H. pylori</i> in Sri Lanka. The aim of this study was to determine the current proportion of <i>H. pylori</i> and to investigate the clarithromycin resistant A2142G and A2143G mutations present in the 23S rRNA gene of <i>H. pylori</i> strains. Further the risk factors for infection with <i>H. pylori</i> were investigated.</p>
Habibollah GIC1415067	<p>The Effects of Hydro-Alcoholic Extract of Zingiber Officinale on Prevention from Plumbism in Kidney Tissue of Neonatal Rats</p> <p>Johari H. Ph.D.¹, Zamani Z.M. Sc², Manteghi A.M. Sc³, Karimnia A. Ph.D³</p> <p>1. Department of Biology, Darab Branch, Islamic Azad University, Darab, Iran. 2. Department of Biology, Kazeron Branch, Islamic Azad University, Kazeron, Iran. 3. Department of Science, Fasa Branch, Islamic Azad University, Fasa, Iran.</p> <p>Email: corresponding author: hjowhary @ yahoo. co.uk</p> <p>Background: In the present research, the effects of hydro-alcoholic extract of <i>Zingiber officinale</i> (ginger) on treating lead-poisoned kidney of neonatal rats was studied.</p> <p>Materials and Methods: This research was conducted as a laboratory work. The neonatal rats were divided into 7 groups of 10 samples. The first control group received no treatment. The second control group received 0.1 mg of distilled water. As an experimental group, the one received an amount of 0.6 g/l lead. The fourth group received only 2 g/kg body weight of hydro-alcoholic extract of ginger. Groups 5 to 7 each initially received 0.6 g/l lead and then amounts of 0.5, 1 and 2 g/kg hydro-alcoholic extract of ginger. The injections were administered via oral gavage during 10 consecutive days.</p> <p>Results: According to the obtained results, the body and kidney weights showed a significant reduction in experimental groups that had received amounts of 1 and 2 g/kg in comparison with the group that had received lead. The kidney weight of the group that had</p>