Summary

Schistosomiasis is a chronic disease with more than 77 million people are infected worldwide, with an estimated 77 million people are at risk in endemic countries.

Schistosomiasis is the major public health problems in Egypt for several decades due to high prevalence and morbidity of the disease, especially among rural populations. In the Nile Delta area, S. mansoni is endemic, while S. haematobium is prevalent in Upper Egypt.

Fayoum is located in Middle Egypt where Schistosoma haematobium and S. mansoni are prevalent. Despite that El Fayoum has had the longest ongoing schistosomiasis control program in Egypt it had the highest S. haematobium infection rate.

After discovery of the parasite’s life cycle in 1951, Egypt started to fight against the disease by implementing the control projects using either snail control or chemotherapy.

The current study aimed to describe the time trends of Shistosoma haematobium prevalence, the recent epidemiology of the disease and identify the present control efforts in Fayoum governorate. This will help in the strategies of the control of schistosoma haematobium in Fayoum governorate.

This descriptive study was implemented through:

- Health records of schistosomiasis haematobium of four available years between 2003 and 2007 from the Fayoum health directorate which contain the number examined as well as the ova positives for school children and persons from the out-patient clinics separately from the directorate.
- Health records of school pupils’ urine examination from the health unit of El Hagar village (high prevalence of S. haematobium in the district) and El Atamna
Summary

The village (low prevalence of S. haematobium in the district) in Etsa district (high prevalence in the governorate).

- Observed routine urine analysis to school children in El-Atamna village to see the relation between S. haematobium infection and water contact.
- Questionnaire was prepared to assess knowledge about schistosomiasis and water contact activities.
- An in-depth interview was done with the manager of tropical medicine department of the Fayoum health directorate and with the physicians and technicians of El-hagar and El-atamna health units to identify the schistosomiasis control effort.

The current study revealed the following key findings:

- Stool analysis of the population for screening of S. mansoni is not done in the governorate.
- The prevalence of S. haematobium in Fayoum governorate show decline from ٤٠٠٢ until ٧٠٠٢.
- Etsa district show the highest incidence in Fayoum governorate.
- The most affected age is between ٩ and ٤١ year.
- There is a defect in the knowledge about schistosomiasis between the school children.
- About ٣/١ of the boys are more water contact.
- There is defect in the schistosomiasis control program in the rural health units.

It has been recommended the following:

- Screening for S. mansoni.
- Health education about schistosomiasis and behavioral education for school children to correct the bad habits as urination, defecation and swimming in canals.
- Mass chemotherapy to Etsa and Tamea districts as they show high incidence and prevalence.
- The governorate should properly implement the schistosomiasis control program.
Summary

- Training for the health unit staff about proper implementation of schistosomiasis control program.