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**Tratamiento de la anemia por anquilostomiasis en un ensayo de campo**

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**Abstract**

**Treatment of Hookworm Anemia in a Field Study**

Iron deficiency anemia still is the principal complication caused by hookworm infection.

The object of this field study was to determine the efficacy of different iron preparations on a closed population. It was performed in a swampy region in the North-East of Argentina, where 98% of the people were affected with hookworm disease and 95% with iron deficiency anemia, according to the results of a parasitological and hematological screening performed previously.

One hundred and thirty six subjects with hookworm infection and iron deficiency anemia were treated with 1-4 fenilone diisocyanate in order to eradicate the parasite.

Three groups were treated for 30 days in a double blind randomized form. Group A received ferrous sulphate, group B received "S" preparation (composition: 152 mg ferrous sulphate, 84 mg sodium bicarbonate and 222 mg ascorbic acid), group C received a placebo.

Laboratory determinations were performed including Hb, Ht, the reticulocyte index and, in some cases, ferremia and transferrinemia.

The effect of both preparations differed significantly from the effect of the placebo ( $p < 0.01$ ); "S" preparation produced a more pronounced increase of the Hb than the ferrous sulphate ( $p < 0.01$ ). The reticulocyte index showed a similar behaviour.

It is emphasized that cases of hookworm infection should receive iron therapy in order to obtain a more secure and rapid correction of the accompanying iron deficiency anemia.