

عنوان مقاله:

Contamination of Bovine Milk With *Brucella* spp.: A Current Public Health Menace in Kurdistan Province of Iran

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خلاصه مقاله:

Background: Brucellosis, a deteriorating zoonotic disease, is very common in most parts of Iran. Consumption of contaminated milk and dairy products is one of the most significant ways for transmission of the infection to human. Since the close rearing of cattle and sheep is practiced in Kurdistan province of Iran, the infection of cow with non-specific species is not out of mind. The present study aimed to determine the frequency of bovine milk contamination with zoonotic *Brucella* spp. **Methods:** A total of ۲۴۰ milk samples, equally from traditional and industrialized dairy farms, were collected aseptically. Conventional microbiological method was used for isolation of the bacterium, followed by the genotypic identification of the isolates. Moreover, direct molecular processing of the samples was carried out for detection of the bacterial genome. The positive samples were further genotypically assessed to identify the contamination as *Brucella abortus* or *Brucella melitensis*. **Results:** In general, ۱۶ (۶.۶۶%) and ۱۵ (۶.۲۵%) of the samples were contaminated with *Brucella* spp. in phenotypic and genotypic methods, respectively. The proportion of contamination with *B. abortus* and *B. melitensis* in phenotypic and genotypic methods were ۵% and ۱.۶۶%, and ۵% and ۱.۲۵%, respectively. The overall rate of contamination in traditional milk samples was more than industrialized samples. **Conclusions:** Contamination of bovine milk with *Brucella* spp. is a serious threat to public health in the studied region. Continuous vaccination, application of test and slaughter policy, and presumption of pasteurized milk and dairy products are highly recommended.

کلمات کلیدی:

Bovine milk, *Brucella abortus*, *Brucella melitensis*, Western Iran

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