

عنوان مقاله:

Comparisons of *Toxoplasma gondii* Prevalence in Rural and Urban Areas of Al-Najaf Province of Iraq Using Serological Methods

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خلاصه مقاله:

Toxoplasma gondii (*T. gondii*) is an intracellular protozoan parasite that multiplies within the host cell and causes the disease toxoplasmosis. *T. gondii* is distributed worldwide and is capable of infecting almost all warm-blooded animals. The current study was conducted in several urban and rural regions in AL-Najaf province of Iraq from September ۲۰۲۰ to April ۲۰۲۱. In total, ۱۹۰ blood samples were collected and screened for *T. gondii* IgG and IgM antibodies using Rapid Diagnostic immunochromatographic test and the enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA). These two tests were performed on ۵ ml of blood samples. The results of the ICT test showed that ۸۰ (۴۲.۱%) samples were positive for IgG; however, no IgM positive sample was recorded. The results of ELISA revealed that ۲۷ (۳۳.۷%) and ۴ (۵%) samples were positive for *T. gondii* IgG and IgM antibodies, respectively. The estimated incidence of toxoplasmosis increased significantly in the ۲۱-۳۰ years age group and females ($P < ۰.۰۵$), compared to other groups. The wide prevalence of toxoplasmosis was observed in Iraq, especially in Najaf province, which was reflected in the results of the study after taking random samples from different places with no symptoms of the disease. Therefore, all members of the community should undergo periodic examinations to diagnose possible infection through the most accurate tests.

کلمات کلیدی:

IgG, IGM, Seroprevalence, *Toxoplasma gondii*

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