

عنوان مقاله:

Molecular detection of *Toxoplasma gondii* in pregnant women in Kabul, Afghanistan

محل انتشار:

سومین کنگره بین المللی چالش های بالینی در مامائی، زنان و نازائی (سال: 1398)

تعداد صفحات اصل مقاله: 1

نویسندگان:

Sayed Hussain Mosawi - *Medical Sciences Research Center, Ghalib University, Kabul, Afghanistan*

Mareena Rassoli - *Medical Sciences Research Center, Ghalib University, Kabul, Afghanistan*

Negina Zekria - *Medical Sciences Research Center, Ghalib University, Kabul, Afghanistan*

خلاصه مقاله:

Background and Aim : The obligate intracellular protozoan parasite *Toxoplasma gondii* has a cosmopolitan distribution and the capacity to infect all warm-blooded animals, including humans. The parasite and the disease are neglected, which is illustrated by the lack of baseline information on the prevalence from many regions. Developed, peaceful regions are in better situation to address toxoplasmosis, while the neglected status is particularly pronounced in regions with other challenges. Due to the lack of baseline data, these regions are rarely mentioned in discussions about the neglected status of the disease. A dramatic manifestation of toxoplasmosis, congenital toxoplasmosis, is the dreaded outcome of vertical transmission of the infection from the mother to the unborn child. For this reason, pregnant women are a key target group for primary prevention of *T. gondii*. **Methods :** In this cross-sectional molecular epidemiology study, we estimated *Toxoplasma gondii* prevalence in pregnant women in Kabul, Afghanistan. A nested PCR was performed on P1 gene of *T. gondii*. **Results :** Altogether 64 of the 103 peripheral blood samples from pregnant women included in the study tested positive for B1 gene nested PCR *T. gondii*, yielding an apparent prevalence estimate of 62.1%. **Conclusion :** Our study is the first molecular epidemiology report of *T. gondii* in pregnant women in Afghanistan. The high prevalence indicates substantial infection pressure in the region. PCR testing may be useful for detection of the disease in Afghanistan.

کلمات کلیدی:

Afghanistan, *Toxoplasma gondii*, PCR, pregnant women

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