

Editor Comment:

I think their description of the work as experimental may be incorrect. It a laboratory based study but no intervention was performed and evaluated. It is rather an observational study--a study of the prevalence of hookworm infections.

I also think the word hookworm *infection* is acceptable (the word infestation is an older term).

Study design: This was an experimental study.

Place and Duration of Study: This study was carried out in the Department of Applied Biology Laboratory, Ebonyi State University, Abakaliki, Nigeria between May, 2013 and November, 2013.

Methodology: A total of 442 stool samples from school children and adults were collected and examined using direct smear and formol-ether concentration techniques for the presence of the parasite eggs.

Results: Out of the 442 examined, 35(7.9%) samples were positive for hookworm infections. Other helminthic infections observed were *Ascaris lumbricoides* 192(43.4%) and *Trichuris trichiura* 4(0.9%). The only mixed infections were seen between hookworm and *Ascaris lumbricoides* which recorded 21(4.8%) prevalence. There was no significant difference in the rate of infection with hookworm between the different age groups ($X^2=2.68$; $P>0.05$), though 8-14 years age group had the highest infection rate (9.8%) while those between 21-30 had the lowest (3.5%). The sex distribution showed a higher infection rate in females with prevalence of 22(9.0%) while 13(6.6%) cases were recorded among the males, however, there was no significant difference in infection rate between the sexes ($X^2=0.90$; $P>0.05$).

Author Feedback:

Please notice that the study design was corrected to "laboratory-based observational study" but the authors still prefer the use of "infection" instead of "infestation". Thanking you'