

## Mefloquine in the treatment of cutaneous leishmaniasis

### Mefloquina no tratamento da leishmaniose cutânea

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**Abstract** Three cases of cutaneous leishmaniasis were treated orally with a mefloquine dose of 4.2mg/kg/day for six days in the Teaching Hospital of the Faculdade de Medicina do Triângulo Mineiro, Uberaba, MG, Brazil. Three weeks later a new series was repeated. No patient was cured.

**Key-words:** Mefloquine. Treatment. Leishmaniasis.

**Resumo** Três casos de leishmaniose tegumentar em pacientes internados no Hospital Escola da Faculdade de Medicina do Triângulo Mineiro, Uberaba, MG, foram tratados com mefloquina, na dose de 4,2mg/kg/dia por via oral, durante seis dias. Nova série foi repetida três semanas após. Nenhum dos três pacientes foi curado.

**Palavras-chaves:** Mefloquina. Tratamento. Leishmaniose.

Gómez et al<sup>1</sup> reported cure of patients with cutaneous leishmaniasis treated with mefloquine.

From August 1995 through March 1996, three patients were treated with mefloquine, in the Teaching Hospital of the Faculdade de Medicina do Triângulo Mineiro. In all these patients the diagnostic was confirmed by finding leishmanias in the smear test and through histopathology and Montenegro intradermal reaction. Mefloquine was administered in the dosage of 4.2mg/kg/day by oral via, during six consecutive days. A new series was scheduled for after the third week of the treatment.

The medication was well tolerated. In the patients follow-up, one of them presented partial cicatrization of the lesion, thirty days after the end

of the first series of the treatment. In the other two patients the lesions worsened after the second series of the medicament. Thus, they were treated with N-metilglucamine antomoniato (Glucantime®), in the dosage of 20mg/kg/day, EV, during 20 days.

In view of the results obtained in the treatment of these three cases, as well as of the data obtained from five other individuals in the region of Corte de Pedra, Bahia State, Brazil (Mefloquine in the treatment of cutaneous leishmaniasis in an endemic area for *Leishmania (Viannia) braziliensis*, Revista da Sociedade Brasileira de Medicina Tropical, in print), we decided not treating with mefloquine other patients with cutaneous leishmaniasis.

#### REFERENCE

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Recebido para publicação em 18/6/99.