

OCCURRENCE OF LEISHMANIASIS IN UNA-BA FROM 2008 TO 2010

(OCORRÊNCIA DE LEISHMANIOSE NO MUNICÍPIO DE UNA-BA DE 2008 À 2010)

J. A. B. R. BIRSCHNER¹, J. R. LUCCI², S. M. PEREIRA³, F. R. P. BRUHN⁴, C. M. B. M. ROCHA⁵, A. P. PECONICK⁵

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), the American Cutaneous Leishmaniasis (ACL) is a tropical disease caused by a protozoan, and because it is neglected and endemic in 98 countries, it is also a public health problem. This study investigates the number of cases notified and informed by the Secretaria Municipal de Saúde of Una - BA, from 2008 to 2010, considering the epidemiological and socio-demographic characteristics of the LTA. The sample consisted of 191 cases reported during the period, 55 cases in 2008, 59 in 2009 and 77 in 2010. The most affected age group was 15-29 years, with 42.4% occurrence; males were the most affected with 62.8% cases. This higher frequency observed for young males may be related to their work. There was a significant relationship between the occurrence of notifications in humans and proximity to the Atlantic forest region. It is important to note that some cases are not reported and/or notified due to the difficulties met by health services to diagnose the disease. This study allowed determining the profile of leishmaniasis in Una, Bahia, thus improving the knowledge about the disease. In this period, 9 new cases per 10,000 inhabitants were reported, thus reinforcing the importance of epidemiological surveillance over time in order to support the planning and decision making regarding LTA.

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¹Médica Veterinária

²Mestranda Ciências Veterinárias – Universidade Federal de Lavras (UFLA)

³Orientadora e Professora adjunta – Universidade Federal de Lavras (UFLA) * stelapereira@dmv.ufla.br

⁴Doutorando – Universidade Federal de Lavras (UFLA)

⁵Professora adjunta – Universidade Federal de Lavras (UFLA)