Methodology: This study utilized an observational analytical cross-sectional study and recruited a sample of expatriate employees. Participants completed a questionnaire; and provided a stool sample. Fecal specimens were analyzed for a range of IPI species using microscopy, Ziehl–Neelsen stain, and polymerase chain reaction (PCR) techniques.

Results: 25% of participants harbored intestinal parasites; 15% with protozoa, while 10% had helminths infection according to microscopy diagnosis. Higher incidents of protozoa and helminths infection were identified using PCR.

Conclusion: IPI can be found in more than quarter of the survey population and this conclusion shed a light on the importance of this study in understanding the pattern of IPI infection and transmission in the UAE.

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Prevalence and associated risk factors of intestinal parasites (Helminths and Protozoa) amongst Labors in Al Ain and Abu Dhabi

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Background: United Arab Emirates is a multicultural country and approximately 65% of the population are expatriates from low- and middle-income developing countries that have a high burden of intestinal parasitic infections (IPI).

Aim: The primary aim is to estimate the prevalence of, and factors associated with IPI in an occupational sample of expatriates in Al-Ain and Abu Dhabi.

Methodology: This study utilized an observational analytical cross-sectional study and recruited a sample of expatriate employees. Participants completed a questionnaire; and provided a stool sample. Fecal specimens were analyzed for a range of IPI species using microscopy, Ziehl–Neelsen stain, and polymerase chain reaction (PCR) techniques.

Results: 25% of participants harbored intestinal parasites; 15% with protozoa, while 10% had helminths infection according to microscopy diagnosis. Higher incidents of protozoa and helminths infection were identified using PCR.

Conclusion: IPI can be found in more than quarter of the survey population and this conclusion shed a light on the importance of this study in understanding the pattern of IPI infection and transmission in the UAE.

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Susceptibility Pattern among Carbapenem-Resistant Enterobacteriaceae isolated from Food Handlers working in Kuwait

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Keywords: Enterobacteriaceae; carbapenem resistance; community; colonization

Background: Multidrug-resistant Enterobacteriaceae is a common cause of healthcare- and community-associated infections. Resistance to the carbapenems has attracted worldwide notoriety. Carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae (CRE) are particularly problematic given the frequency with which they cause infections, high mortality and the potential for wide spread transmission of resistant strains via mobile genetic elements.

Purpose: To determine CRE prevalence and their susceptibility pattern among food handlers.

Methodology: Rectal swabs were collected from 405 Food handlers. Enterobacteriaceae isolates were identified and tested against 21 antimicrobial agents using E-test. Interpretation was done according to the CLSI (2017).

Results: Microbiological cultures yielded 679 Enterobacteriaceae species that were isolated, 36 (5.3%) of which were CRE. A breakdown of the CRE isolates were: Escherichia coli 15 (41.7%), Klebsiella pneumoniae 8 (22.2%) and Enterobacter cloacae 3 (8.3%) and others 10 (27.8%). Resistance to Ampicillin and Cefotaxime was 89% and 36%, respectively. Around 60% of the CRE were resistant to Tetracycline, Cephalothin, Amoxicillin/clavulanic acid. However, rresistance to Colistin was 39%, these isolates included E. coli, 7 (46.7%); K. pneumoniae, 1 (12.5%); E. cloacae, 1 (33.3%); and 5 (35.7%) other species. All isolates were susceptible to Aminoglycosides and Piperacillin/tazobactam except Serratia marcescens (n = 1) and Klebsiella pneumoniae (n = 1), respectively. Resistance to Ciprofloxacin and Tigecycline was 5.6% and 8.3%, respectively. All the CRE isolates were MDR and 30.6% were positive for the production of extended-spectrum beta-lactamases. **Conclusion:** Unexpectedly Ciprofloxacin resistant is very low in comparison to other studies. CRE isolates were highly resistant to Cephalosporins and Tetracyclin. Resistant to Colistin is emerging explosively in our community necessitating continuous surveillance studies.

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Rubella virus seroprevalence and associated factors among non-vaccinated pregnant women in Northwest Ethiopia

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Background and Purpose: Rubella virus infection during pregnancy is associated with adverse fetal outcomes and reproductive failures. In Ethiopia, little is known about the extent of the diseases and there is no rubella vaccination and antibody. The main aim of this study was to assess the sero-prevalence of the rubella virus infection and its associated risk factors among pregnant women.

Methods: Institution based cross-sectional study was conducted in the antenatal clinics of Debre Markos and Debre Tabor hospitals of Amhara Region, Northwest Ethiopia from March to June 2015. About 5 ml of blood sample was also collected from all study