Report of

Deworming Campaign

24th and 25th September 2021

Organized by

ISLAMIAH COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS)

In collaboration with

HEALTH DEPARTMENT, GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Deworming Campaign

24th and 25th September 2021

Background

Four main species of intestinal worms (also known as soil-transmitted helminths) affect almost a quarter of the world's poorest and mostly marginalized people are the most affected. They are a major public health problem because the worms disrupt people's ability to absorb nutrients, impeding the growth and physical development of millions of children.

More than 836 million children are at risk of parasitic worm infections worldwide. According to World Health Organization 241 million children between the ages of 1 and 14 years are at risk of parasitic intestinal worms in India, also known as Soil-Transmitted Helminths (STH). Helminths (worms) which are transmitted through soil contaminated with faecal matter are called soil-transmitted helminths (Intestinal parasitic worms). Roundworm (Ascaris lumbricoides), whipworm (Trichuris trichiura) and hookworms (Necator americanus and Ancylostoma duodenale) are worms that infect people. Worm infestations contribute to vitamin A deficiency; deworming reduces anaemia, anaemia is also associated with increased vitamin A deficiency. Therefore, worm infestations and vitamin A deficiency both have serious health repercussions for a growing child and therefore both should be prioritized. STH is transmitted in the following ways.

1. Adult worms live in human intestines for food and survival and produce thousands of eggs each day.
2. Eggs are passed in the faeces of infected person.
3. Infected people who defecate outdoors spread worm eggs in the soil.
4. Eggs contaminate the soil and spread infection in several ways: —
5. Ingested through vegetables that are not carefully cooked, washed or peeled;
6. Ingested from contaminated water sources;
7. Ingested by children who play in soil and then put their hands in their mouths without washing them.

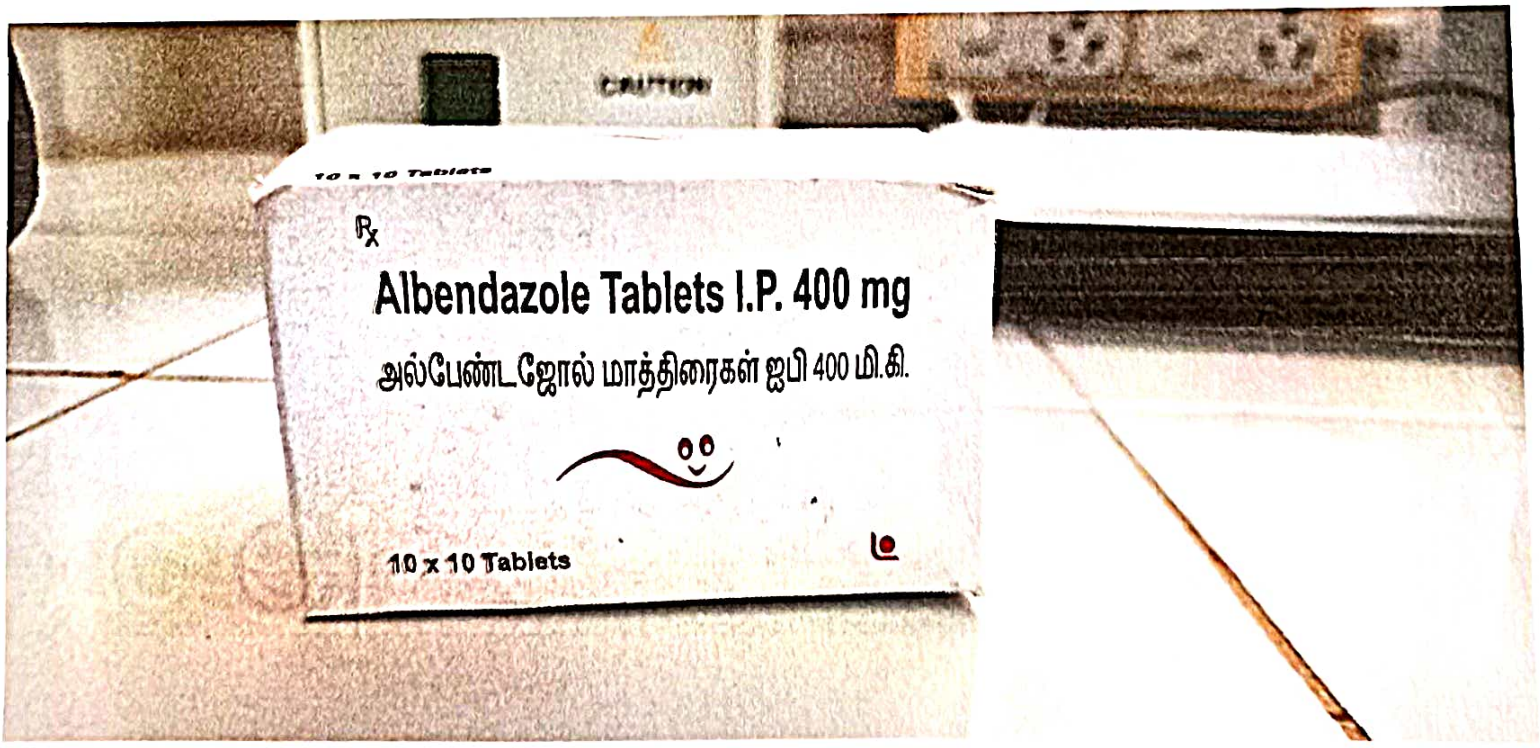
STH infections can lead to anemia, malnutrition, impaired mental and physical & cognitive development, and reduced school participation. Periodic deworming programmes with a single-tablet treatment can drastically reduce the suffering of those infected with parasitic intestinal worms and protect the 1.5 billion people currently estimated to be at risk.

Objectives of the Campaign:

- To deworm all students
- To reduce the prevalence of soil transmitted Helminths (STH)
- To reduce Vitamin A deficiency due to worm infestation
- To overcome malnutrition and anaemia

Executive summary of the Campaign

With the blessings of Almighty, **"Deworming Campaign"** was organized by Islamiah College (Autonomous), Vaniyambadi, in collaboration with the Health Department, Government of Tamil Nadu, on 24th and 25th September 2021 to deworm students of age group less than 19 years. Deworming Tablets Albendazole 400 mg was obtained from the Health Department, Government of Tamil Nadu. Dr. N. Shabeer Ahmed, Assistant Professor, Department of Biotechnology planned and executed the campaign meticulously. A circular from the table of the Principal was circulated in this regard to the HoDs to distribute the deworming tablets to students through their mentors. A total of 1775 tablets were distributed. On 24.09.2021, 900 tablets were distributed to students and on 25.09.2021, 875 tablets were distributed.



Outcome and Suggestions

- Deworming will improve immunity, and thereby protect from chronic illnesses caused by worms.
- It will improve concentration and attendance, making them more productive in classes.
- It will increase nutritional uptake and control infections such as anemia, loose bowels, etc.
- It will improve work potential and livelihood opportunity.
- It will help in reducing worm infection in the community.

This campaign for the students, received appreciations from the College management, Health Department, Government of Tamil Nadu and the general public. After the success of this camp, it was suggested to deworm adults (above 19 years) as well under the guidelines of health professionals.

~~THANK YOU~~

Dr. N. Shabeer Ahmed
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Nodal Officer – COVID-19 Containment

25/9/21

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