

**A COMPARATIVE TRIAL OF FLUBENDAZOLE, FLUBENDAZOLE WITH LEVAMISOLE
AND MEBENDAZOLE FOR MASS ANTHELMINTIC TREATMENT AND
AN ASSESSMENT OF RE-INFECTION RATES**

M. M. Ismail and N. D. W. Lionel

*(Dept. of Parasitology, Medical Research Institute, Colombo 8, and Dept. of Pharmacology,
Faculty of Medicine, University of Colombo, Colombo 8)*

Five hundred and seven individuals harbouring one or more soil-transmitted nematodes were treated with flubendazole (500 mg single dose), Flubendazole (500 mg) with levamisole (50 mg single dose) or mebendazole (100 mg) twice a day for 3 days. Flubendazole produced cure rates for *Ascaris* and hookworm which compared well with those obtained with mebendazole. The cure rates for *Trichuris* infection after flubendazole treatment were poor compared with mebendazole. Side effects were minimal in all treatment groups.

Quarterly follow-up examinations and treatment of positives showed that there was a decrease in both prevalence and intensity of infection in all treatment groups except in the case of *Trichuris* infection treated with flubendazole. The results obtained with flubendazole alone were similar to those obtained with mebendazole alone.

Studies on a limited number of cases seemed to suggest that, as far as intestinal nematodes are concerned, there does not appear to be any species specific host susceptibility.