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RESUMO

According to data issued by the Ministry of Health in 2021, ascariasis is the most prevalent parasitic infection in Brazil, ahead of hookworm and trichuriasis. Thereat, it is imperative to seek effective and affordable measures for prophylaxis and treatment. Considering the botanical diversity of the country and also the popular and scientific knowledge associated with it, it is understood that the use of medicinal plants can optimize the treatment and decrease the prevalence, especially in populations that are more vulnerable due to socioeconomic issues. The present study aims to collect data on the use of medicinal plants in parasitic infection by *Ascaris lumbricoides* through an integrative review analysis of recent scientific articles on the problem. The searches were conducted in PubMed, Scielo and LILACS databases, and original articles published from 2011 were selected. The descriptors used in the search were, respectively, "*Ascaris lumbricoides* AND phytotherapy", "*Ascaris lumbricoides* AND medicinal plants" and "*Ascaris lumbricoides* AND plants". Articles were excluded from the selection if, after reading the title and, if necessary, the abstract, they indicated that it was not about the use of medicinal plants in parasitic infection by *A. lumbricoides*. The result of the selection of articles found by the inclusion and exclusion criteria totaled the analysis of 3 articles, covering the year 2011 to 2014, in which it was determined the antiparasitic action for *A. lumbricoides* in the administration of *Carica papaya* seeds in school meals of 336 children, resulting in a 63.9% decrease in egg count, while in a study in indigenous communities in Argentina there was a reduction in the prevalence of the parasite of 19.2% in Ñamandú and 20.8% in Pocito by the use of *Chenopodium ambrosioides*, which contains ascaridol as its active ingredient. Furthermore, there is evidence of lethal anti-helminthic action of *Ficus glabrata*, and in vitro activity of *Moringa pterygosperma* Gaertn. and *Ananas comosus* (L.) Merr. for *A. lumbricoides*. Therefore, the importance of using medicinal plants that have antiparasitic properties as a therapeutic option for the treatment of ascariasis can be seen. Thus, the use of medicinal plants with antiparasitic action is an effective and accessible alternative in the treatment of patients infected with *A. lumbricoides* who are in endemic areas and needy situations.

PALAVRAS-CHAVE: *Ascaris lumbricoides*, Medicine Plants, Parasite Infection

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